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EDUCATION

A Season of Strife

SHOW BUSINESS

Mamma Mia! More ABBA!

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Maclean's

Coming of Age

As he turns 18,
Prince William is
showing an
independent streak

Is he the last
hope for the House
of Windsor?

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This Week

Maclean's

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ROGERS
MEDIA

Cover



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On June 21, Prince William will turn 18. Blessed with his late mother's ability to connect with a crowd, he has already shown an independent streak that is injecting a breath of fresh air into Britain's tradition-bound and often beleaguered monarchy.

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At Canada and its hard-driving boss Robert Milios are under heavy fire from politicians and passengers as tales mount of manager-related travel misery.



42 A season of strife

Renewed tumult has hit some provincial education systems, especially Ontario where the government is tightening its grip on schools.



48 Mamma Mia!, more ABBA!

A smash-hit musical features a light plot, an old-fashioned happy ending and 22 songs from the Swedish supergroup that defined a decade for many.

Editor

Canada and the diamond war

Would you want Ottawa to dispatch your son, a brother or a close friend to West African in an armed effort to restore the peace in strife-torn Sierra Leone? Obviously, many would say, hell, no! do not go. That is where, is the fundamental reason why the Canadian and U.S. governments are loath to use their own resources to oppose the nefarious ways of the anti-government rebels. That is why Defence Minister Art Eggleton has pledged only to supply transports to ferry some 1,800 peacekeepers from India and Bangladesh to Sierra Leone in the next few weeks. That is why



Misled girl terror

Canada's UN ambassador, Robert Fowler, calls for the establishment of a "rapid-reaction" force, while failing to back any effort to put one together for action in Sierra Leone. That is why the dangerous task of removing peace is being left to Third World nations, many of whose troops are

ill-equipped or inexperienced.

And so the terror continues, including the kidnap and mutilation of children, the shooting of foreign troops, the threats to skin opponents alive. All of that is done in the name of the so-called Revolutionary United Front, led by an apparently mad army corporal named Foday Sankoh. At week's end, the UN troops—the 8,400 not held by the RUF—and their allies were preparing for yet another rebel assault on the capital of Freetown, established in 1792 by liberated slaves who sailed from Nova Scotia to settle there.

At the heart of the ugly dispute is one of the great symbols of beauty—diamonds. Sierra Leone has some of the rich deposits in the world and various factions have been fighting over them for decades. The diamond traffic was the subject of Graham Greene's 1948 classic, *The Heat of the Moment*.

which is also the title of a groundbreaking study on the history of the bloody saga by Ottawa consultant Ian Smale and his colleagues (*businessweek.com/business book*). The report argues that the civil war actually serves as cover for illegal activities, including the smuggling of diamonds and drugs, and money laundering. The sinister nature of the business exploded in 1991, the author says, when rehousing liberals began openly trading gems for the precious cash controlled by Sankoh's forces. And the report also documents the Sierra Leonian diamond transfers of these junior mining companies with listings on Canadian stock exchanges, and the extent to which the diamond powers-play a role in the country. Diamonds may be forever. But Sierra Leonians can only hope the reign of terror ends soon.

Robert Lewis

reporter@marksmag.ca to comment
on From the Editor

Newsroom Notes

Back to the future

Time travel is the way *Mark's* European Bureau Chief Barry Castel describes this week's assignment: an exploration of the unique but still pampered world of Europe's royal families [page 14]. Britain's Prince William, who turns 18 next month, leads the way, but the son of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, is only second in line for the crown behind his father, Prince



Crown in London's royal waterside

Charles. On the continent, where 10 thrones survive, a collection of young crown princes and princesses is stuck closer to succeeding their aging royal

parents. They are, for the most part, attractive, rich and extremely eligible—a potent combination that causes many a royal headache. "They lead too placid lives," notes Caine, "a function no doubt of their security as the future crowned heads of Europe. Anachronistic though they may be, those long and quiet, private and grand dukes have not lost their power to fascinate us."

The cover package was researched by Researcher/Reporter Farrah Trible, edited by Assistant Managing Editor Peter Kopkind, and designed by Art Director Nick Bumett.

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The Mail

Singledom

I have been waiting for recognition of the single segment of the population for decades ("I am single," Cover, May 8). I chose the single path for myself some 20 years ago after my marriage ended, and have been subjected to stereotypical opinions ever since, including assumptions I must be gay, too cynical or in need of relationship counselling. Yet, there are times when life becomes overwhelming, and I crave another person to lean on. However, the freedom to be myself and do what I want, when I want, is the best answer—there I have found. I am free, a productive member of society, happy and proud of being alone against the world, seeing it as a challenge and coming out on top.

Paula Skating, Dawson, B.C.

Gees, and I thought the 1980s were the "me" decade. From your cover story, it appears the first 10 years of the new millennium will be the "me, me, me" decade. Never have I heard such selfish adults in all my life. As a happily married stay-at-home mom of three, I was appalled to read about singles living in four-bedroom houses. What gloriosity has our society lost? Have individuals and capitalism taken over so com-



Maclean's

I Am
Single



pletely that we are starting to think we don't need partners? I don't think there is anything wrong with being single, but so many of the people quoted in the article sounded like my five-year-old on a bad day: they want to do what they were when they were and they don't want to deal with anyone else's ideas or beliefs. Hence, so I say to my son: you have to learn to share.

Jennifer Gerasimus, Brampton, Ont.

As a single, 26-year-old GWM, I recently made the conscious decision to forgo any more investments of time and energy searching for "the one," and instead I have begun to devote every minute to the most important person in my life—me. If do what I want, when I want, in the manner that pleases me and within the confines of my own personal household. How affirming to read about some of the 24.2-per-cent-plus single households in Canada and the fulfilling, exciting ways they have found happiness or at least peace and contentment. As a gay man for whom the prospect of legal marriage may be within sight, the decision to remain single and distance myself towards myself has not come about without serious contemplation. But what liberation. Being single is not a voluntary state—I'm not hiding my true until the one shows up. I might have that perfect love yes, but when and if I do, it'll be my project and nobody else's.

Chris Thompson, Vancouver

Letters to the Editor

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Political choices

Regarding the article "Fatal furies" (World, May 8), it sounds like that the world community, in a matter of days, will smash massive firepower and move hundreds of thousands of troops to protect oil reserves (Kuwait) or to try to crush a hostile European government (Serbia), but seemingly cannot muster enough compassion or food to save lives, let alone ensure that the meager food supplies safely reach the starving children in Ethiopia without being stolen for the black market. Without resources being our allies for help, I guess starving Ethiopian women and children are just not sexy enough for most to give a damn. What an abysmal, abhorrent shame for the world community in general.

Peter Bellone, Las Vegas, Nev.

ing everything they can to avoid being single. A culture of dating services, relationship guru, fertility clinic and Nora Ephron movies is a clear indicator that the institutions of marriage and the nuclear family are still the standard everyone is striving for. This is another generation's attempt to normalize the abnormal by nickname baby boomer who can't get it right. When is the generation going to grow up?

Matthew G. Reid, London, Ont.

Although I have been happily married for more than 16 years, your article reminded me of my favorite saying:

Clarification

The article "Gun smarts" (Canada and the World, April 17) stated that the United States had a death rate from gun violence 15 times higher than that of all other unindustrialized nations combined. In fact, that 15-times ratio applies specifically to the rate of gun-related homicides of children under 15 in the United States, compared to those in 25 other high-income countries combined.

If you'd step out of your Toronto office for 30 seconds, you'd realize that in the real world more Canadians are do-

A collage of images from Costa Rica. At the top, a woman stands on a rocky beach overlooking the ocean. Below her, a person holds a large, ornate Guaatil pottery vessel. The background features lush green mountains and a tropical sunset. Text overlays include "Costa Rica", "No Artificial Ingredients", "Taste the difference", "Heat under the Caribbean or Pacific sun", and "1-800-343-6332".

by the cartoonist Mary Engelbreit: "It takes a mighty good husband to be better than that."

Amit Kapadia, Toronto

Supporting the CBC

What an insulting comment CBC president Robert Romano made: "The CBC version of local news is not a very good news" ("Renaming the CBC," Canada, May 8). The CBC supper-hour newscasts have been badly underfunded since cuts to the network began in 1990. The CBC president bases his view on his sole preference for *Fake News* in Montreal. There is another comparison with private TV: in Toronto, the cop-out station has 15 reporters, four live-feed trucks and one helicopter; CBLE, the local CBC station, has five reporters, no live-feed trucks and no helicopters. News management made a decision to turn CBC local news into a format that offend thoughtful, avenging, community-oriented programming. Romano's employees have been creating their shows on this model. It is shameful he has chosen to shoot them down as publicly for doing their jobs.

Mike Lonsdale, President,

Canadian Media Guild, Toronto

camp, with an enduring sense of severe medical emergency. This is directly due to the economic situation Canada endures, following U.S. leadership.

Wayne Martley, Langley, B.C.

Questionable leaders

All this blather about Tom Long as a potential leader of the Canadian Alliance is a joke. Bruce Wallace reported Long does not speak French ("Joe Clark time of reckoning," May 8), has a bad side of office when a political party seeking to build a national base would field a candidate who lacks the basic qualifications to be prime minister. Paul Poy, Waterloo, Ont.

Bruce Wallace sums up the dilemma of Joe Clark correctly. Every election Clark has inside since becoming leader—again—has had a seismic downside. His only purpose seemed to be to re-create past glories and to rewrite history. Why is it taking his followers so long to see that it's a ruse?

Al Wiegert, Barrie, Ont.

Power and land

The bloodshed in Zimbabwe has nothing to do with land or white farmers; it is about power and President Robert Mugabe has to hang on to that power ("Zimbabwe's shaky ground," World, April 24). His and his friends are systematically killing the black Zimbabwean leaders of the opposition party, who, had Mugabe called an election, would have defeated him. Murray Cole, Nelson, B.C.

The war of alienation of the late 1960s and "I'm not against Great Britain," but against the white minority government of Ian Smith, which had been acting independently of the British government since 1965, when the Rhodesian government severed ties with Britain by proclaiming a unilateral declaration of independence.

Peter Hulme, Ottawa

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Overheads

Hockey's blacked-out history

Unlike baseball, the NHL has never had a policy barring players because of their race. Still, it took the league until 1958, where Willie O'Ree broke the colour bar to admit its first black player—and after other sports paved the way. Now the NHL has about 20 black players, all but one are from Canada. The converse

- **1899**—Two blacks, Hippie (Hippo) Galloway of Woodstock, and Chadie Lightfoot of Stratford lace up for Central Ontario Hockey Association.
- **1903**—The Coloured Hockey League of the Maritimes is founded. Hundreds of (mostly white) fans pay up to 35 cents to watch games, in which players perform acrobatic and clown stunts between periods.
- **1915**—Bud Kelly, from Ingleside, Ont., joins Frank Selke's 118th Battalion hockey team out of London, Ont. (an intermediate OHA team). Kelly claimed his fair pair of skates were whisky flasks tied to bottoms of shoes. He was recruited by NHL teams: the Pats (later the Maple Leafs). He said Buddie (brotherly) opportunity seen by St. Pat manager, not racism, kept him out of pros.
- **1917**—The NHL is formed.
- **1927**—St. Catharines Orioles, all-black team, compete against all-white team from Guelph, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls as part of Ontario Negro District Hockey League, team loses about four years.
- **1937**—Herb Carnegie, rap-singing Jester Bantam from Toronto, has hopes of entering NHL, dashed after learning of Maple Leaf founder Conn Smythe's comment: "Ed take him sometime if somebody could earn him white." Said Carnegie recently: "Edways fed the guys when I come to see the Leafs play."
- Carnegie, brother Orisk and Mandy McKey go on to become Quebec Senior League stars, only all-black hockey line, dubbed "Brown Bombers" or "Dark Destroyers."
- **Jan. 18, 1958**—Fusion-crazed-bomber Willie O'Ree breaks NHL color bar, playing first game for Boston Bruins in Montreal Forum. He plays 45 games over two seasons, scoring only four goals but per standing creation after earning winning goal against Montreal on New Year's Day, 1961. Late that year, Chicago police, fearing riot, escort Bruins out of town after O'Ree bundle



O'Reilly, the old
Black St. Cathartines
Ordinary of the late
1930s; they seek an all-
volunteer Diocesan norms.

gan District Hockey League, recent losses

• **1937**—Hart Carnage, rap-singing Junior B centre from Toronto, has hopes of entering NHL, dashed after learning of Maple Leaf founder Conn Smythe's comment: "I'd take him tomorrow if somebody could cure him white." Said Carnage recently: "I always fed the point when I come [to see the Leaf pros]."

Carrige, brother Ossie; and Manning McLean go on to become Quebec Senior League's first, only all-black hockey line, dubbed "Brown Bombers" at "Dark Destroyers."

goals for you standing creation after netting winning goal against Montreal on New Year's Day, 1961. Later that year, Chicago police, fearing riot, escort Bruins out of town after C'ros bashed

San Fernando

After O'Ree's NHL debut, Toronto's Mike Marson becomes second black player, with Washington Capitals.

• 1984—All-star goalie Grant Fuhr from Spruce Grove, Alta., becomes first black player to win raise regarded as Stanley Cup Fuh, the most successful black hockey player, played from 1986 until retirement at end of this season for seven NHL teams, competed internationally with Team Canada, and was repeated all-star choice.

- **March 7, 1994**—John Parsons of Windsor, Ont., becomes first black coach in pro hockey. He leads Atlanta Knights to International Hockey League championship in 1994.
- **1997-1998**: NHL suspends three players for total of five games for slurs against blacks.

San Fernando

DON'T HANDLE WITH CARE.



TABLE 4C.¹⁹ U.S. Power Plants with Total Generation
Exceeding 100,000 Kilowatts or More Than One Unit
in Service, by Type of Fuel Used, 1970

the new (tougher) ThinkPad T400s

... (continued) ThinkPad T20
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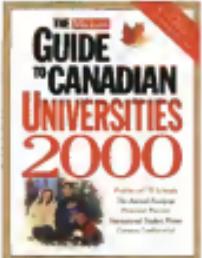
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Died: Jules Deschênes, 76, outspoken former chief justice of the Quebec Superior Court, was known for a 1982 landmark decision that gave the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms primacy over a Quebec language law restricting educational rights. He built a reputation for clear unequivocal rulings marked by often blunt language. In the 1980s, he presided over the Canadian commission into war crimes, his commission heard more than 200 cases of suspected war crimes being investigated in Canada. He received the Order of Canada in 1989. In 1993, Deschênes was elected by the United Nations to serve on a tribunal trying accused war criminals from the former Yugoslavia. He died in 1997, caring ill health. Deschênes died in Montreal.



He has studied at McGill, the University of Toronto and Harvard, and went to work at Wood Gundy in 1964. Within a year, he was appointed to the board of directors. At one stage, his company was estimated to be responsible for 40 to 50 per cent of underwriting in Canada. He died suddenly at his Toronto home.

Awarded: Newfoundland author Wayne Johnson, 42, won the inaugural \$25,000 Charles Taylor Prize for literary merit for his book *Baltimore Man*—A Mystery. Days after the win, Johnson, who now lives in Toronto, sold the movie rights to his 1996 novel, *The Galaxy of Unquestioned Disease*, to a Canadian production company, Associated Producers.

Died: André (Dredd) Fortin, 38, founder and lead singer of the Québecois rock group Les Célestes, was found dead of a stab wound in his Montreal apartment. Police are investigating it as a suspicious death.

Convicted: Former Louisiana governor Edwin Edwards was found guilty of 17 charges of kickbacking, conspiracy and embezzlement relating to the awarding of state asbestos contracts. Edwards, 72, the Democratic governor for four terms in office covering 16 years, had been acquitted twice in previous trials. His firm's zusammen versteine of more than 200 years in jail and millions of dollars in fines he plans to appeal the decision.

Censured: The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council ruled that a weekly syndicated call-in advice show hosted by Dr. Laura Schlessinger is "obviously discriminatory towards gays and lesbians." The Los Angeles-based Schlessinger, 53, who has a doctorate in physiology and training in a marriage and family counselling, has at various times described gay sex as "shameful," "depraved" and "disgusting." The show has a North American-wide audience of 20 million people daily and air on more than 30 Canadian radio stations. Those stations will now likely take steps to screen the program for gay-related content in response to the ruling.

Died: J. Ross LeMoine, 76, a war hero and gentleman farmer, built Wood Gundy Inc., a corporate-financial development into a legend on Bay Street in the 1970s. Born in Montreal, LeMoine worked in the Canadian Army in 1943 and was a Military Cross for his service. He lost part of one leg to a mortar shell

Over to You

John Intini



No more school daze

Pretty much every weekday morning during the past four years, I have rolled out of bed, thrown on a pair of slacks and shirt (all created from the last time I wore them), skipped breakfast and taken off to either morning classes or the office of *The Gazer*, a student newspaper at the University of Western Ontario. It's a routine that has never become old. But like everybody else in the world, I'm at the mercy of one constant in life: change. When the dust of political science made me diploma at convocation next month, my academic security blanket will be stretched snap. Next year may mark the first time in 19 years I will get a report card.

A while ago, with our sons together drawing to a close, I sat with my two roommates, Tim and Drew, in our basement apartment, reminiscing over our time together. We moved our one-on-one grudge matches on the basketball court to the local park, and I recalled my first impression of Drew in first year when he took away the quarter-buckling duties from me on our intramural team. We talked about how quickly the years seemed to pass by, and how close we are now in the Real World. We all agreed that's a bit silly because there's an inevitable anxiety that springs from having never experienced it. When can I actually afford my first real car and not just the hand-me-downs from my parents? What's a good age to get married—or is that what I really want, anyway? We'll learn that while a part-time job at the local grocery store paid the bills in a summer job, it won't do the trick anymore. I speak as a seven-year vet of bouting and poking.

Now that I look back at things, university seems such a comforting place. Things like warning tests and assignments create a sort of pressure for students, but there's also a degree of comfort with the life. University offers a form of pseudo-reality for those of us in our early 20s. While it provides Real World-type experiences—such things as text and phone talk—it comes with safety nets attached, such as generous parents and student loans.

If I decide to pass up graduate school next fall, part of me will miss campus life dearly. I'll miss late-night talks with friends about life; they often demonstrated some great discussions about pretty much nothing, like the time spent talking about how to become the next big boy band. And I'll miss the parties, working at the school paper, the classes and the professors.

Most of all, I'll miss the friends. As much as we promise to keep in touch, distance and other commitments will strain those bonds we've built. Over the next year, some will go to graduate school, some will travel and others have found work in their chosen profession. Some are like this: he says he'll call once a week just to pay the bills.

Our lives are about to change for good. More always tells me that each year of your life is shorter than the last one. Looking back so far, she's right. Until now, the work has been hard, but the course load varied, and there was always something new. Serious decisions lie ahead: there won't be many makeup tests or clean sheets to help. Like thousands of my classmates this month, I can't plan any longer about what I want to do when I grow up. I'm already there. For starters, before I go to job interviews, I'll try to figure out how the iron works.

John Intini was born Western, but grew up in Ontario. Submissions may be sent to over@maclean.ca or faxed to (416) 586-7730. We cannot respond to all queries.

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Anthony Wilson-Smith

Politics and the right stuff

To better understand why the Canadian Alliance is heading on either a major political breakthrough or irrelevance, consider its newest son-of-inexperiencemate, Stanley Hart. In the 1968 Liberal leadership race, Hart, then a Montreal tax lawyer, was a charter member of the 195 Club—the delegates who supported John Turner. In the 1980s, Hart, a close friend of Brian Mulroney, moved his opinions to the right and his allegiance to the Progressive Conservatives and eventually became Mulroney's chief of staff. A decade ago, during failed final negotiations over the Meech Lake accord, as one—other than Mulroney—waded harder to sabotage the agreement. Since then, the friendly bilingual, earthy but cerebral Hart has moved on to Toronto in a successful career in the private sector; these days in chairman of Salomon Smith Barney Canada. Hart remains a Tory member, friend and fierce defender of Mulroney, but last week joined the Alliance so as to formally support Tam Long's candidacy.

There's a moment in the old *Sex and the City* in which the bespectacled George watches people from different areas of his life intersecting, against his wishes. He bemoans what happens "when worlds collide," and declares that together, they're "telling independent George." The point was that we compartmentalize acquaintances, and react awkwardly when they appear where we don't expect them. Now, Joe Clark knows how George feels. Suddenly, people he has known for years are showing up in places where they're not supposed to be, and it's killing him—and quite likely, us.

In the past couple of weeks, there have been announcements of dozen of names—including Hart, Ontario Treasurer Ernie Eves, and former cabinet minister Jake Fipp—joining our Alliance memberships to support various candidates. To the average person, this doesn't mean much—just some names from the past surfacing. To political strategists of all stripes, it's something else again—a sign that the logans of the right are breaking, with potentially enormous consequences for everyone. Old politicians, like soldiers, usually just fade away when they leave office, suffering occasionally for hand-susers or perfunctory declarations of support for their successors. When they're unhappy, they close their wallets and stay away from party events, like the Tory national convention in Quebec City last weekend, but at the same time, they stay quite publicly about their bets.

That isn't the case now among many dissidents, and the reasons involve more than a breach of political etiquette. Parties are living organisms, and a decision to switch sides means abandoning old friends and making nice with old enemies. Doing so is "painful, surprisingly so," admits Hart. It can

also be bad business. People get involved in politics because they believe in certain values—but also because they derive satisfaction from the work, as well as at least a possibility of tangible gain through the connections they make. Mulroney used to joke he would support Liberals in government, averaging post "when and only when every last living, breathing Tory has an appointment." The Liberals help their friends that way now, when longtime Tories move to the Alliance; they're saying, in effect, that they no longer like Tory policies, the work is a drag, and they're not afraid of turning their backs because they're not much the party can do to spoils them. The flip side is that for years lots of Bay Street people liked the Party Formed as Reform, but with held support because they didn't think it would ever become the government. Now, that's changing.

Another thing about political parties is that when they die, it's often with a whimper, not a bang. Many people who quit parties simply let their membership cards expire and withdraw quietly. Tories consider that in many of the 301 national ridings, they have, at best, phantom associations with a handful of members, and no real structure. Without strong ground support, you are dead, electrically. In the 1997 federal election, then-Tory leader Jean Chretien was the most popular leader in Quebec according to some polls, but won only five of 75 seats; political press say he might have won up to 20 more with proper support. Clark has that problem nationally—and he lacks Chretien's personal appeal.

Hart, like some other Tory defectors, says bluntly that he would reasonably stay with the Alliance if Long doesn't win. He's concerned about the social conservatism of other such data, and in policy terms, he says, "I consider myself a conservative. I don't have to come to a party if it has to come to me." It's far from certain that will happen. Preston Manning remains the favourite to win the leadership, and lots of Alliance members fume at the idea that their one-time grassroots western protest movement is being increasingly co-opted by Central Canada. Mulroney brought the Tories to power by building unlikely, often-unlikely coalitions of alienated westerners, Quebec nationalists and Bay Street money. Now, those groups have to decide if they're prepared to sleep together again to beat the Liberals—this time on another dimension. No matter the outcome, don't expect many dissident Tories to return to the party they've just left. Winston Churchill once joked of himself, when he rejoined Tories years after quitting, "Anyton can sit, but it takes a certain amount of ingenuity to re-sit." The mere, as they say on Bay Street, is your friend. In the race to represent the right, the only way the Tories can now sit is if the Alliance defeats itself.



Coming of Age



During Christmas at
Sandringham House in 1998
(left); learning to drive (above);
with his mother, Diana, in 1987
(right); a contemporary free



As he prepares to turn 18, Prince William is showing an independent streak in the tradition-bound world of the monarchy

By Barry Carse

In keeping with the exotic standards of the House of Windsor, the celebrations are expected to be lavish. Windsor Castle has already been selected as the site. The date is June 21, the 18th birthday of Prince William, future heir to the British throne, certainly the best and probably the last hope for the continuing survival of a millennium-old monarchy. If that were not occasion enough to rejoice, the affair will also commemorate four other royal landmarks—Princess Margaret's 70th birthday, Princess Anne's 50th, Prince Andrew's 40th and, not least, the 190th anniversary of the birth of the much beloved royal of all, Queen Victoria.

But when Britain's royals, and their 500 invited guests, assemble next month in the castle west of London that bears the family name, one prominent member will be missing: William himself. "The prince will be attending the celebrations at Windsor," affirms Colleen Harris, a member of the Prince of Wales' staff at St. James's Palace. William's less than confidence: "He will be studying for one of his A-levels that he has to write the very next day. He's decided to commemorate his birthday later in the summer, after he graduates from Eton, probably with close friends."

As a measure of the navel of the younger who may some day be King, that development is telling, even more so as a gauge of the direction in which the British monarchy is currently heading. There was a time, not so very long ago, when it would have been unheard-of for the second-in-line to the throne to skip an event as momentous as the one planned for this coming June 21 for reasons as mundane as school exams. William's grandparents, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince

Philip, were once held to modern mores fit denoting an even send their children to school. When William's father, Prince Charles, chose to set a royal precedent by enrolling in classes at Cambridge University, there was a furious debate within the court over whether Charles should actually drop out for examination. He did and eventually won an honorable, if not exactly sparkling, degree in history.

By all accounts, William wears from a far different cloth than either his father or his doomed mother, Diana, Princess of Wales. If the record he has compiled at Eton is any guide, he may in fact be emerging as something of an intellectual among the Royal Family. In due time, younger brother Prince Harry, 15, is due more in the traditional House of Windsor mould. The sound, freckled man with the studly grin in a tux, most naturally good athlete than his older brother, and destined in all probability for a military career. But Harry is an indifferent student; William is not. He sailed through his classes at Eton and is likely to do the same this spring on his A-levels, the demanding British secondary school graduation examinations that also determine university entrance. "I expect he'll do well," confides the older sibling of one of William's Eton classmates. "I'm told that, unlike either his brother or his mother, he takes his studies very seriously indeed."

Precisely where William is headed after Eton remains unknown, at least officially. "There has been no announcement" is all that St. James's Palace staffer Harris will disclose. At an open meeting, however, that the prince is determined to take a year off before attending university, to engage in some ecologically oriented endeavor, most probably far from the prying eyes of the media in the Australian Outback,



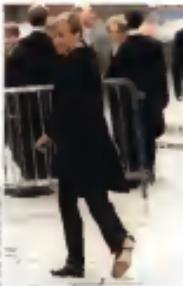
Cover

The young prince has inherited Diana's ability to connect with a crowd, even as his contacts with her family have dwindled

maybe even Canada's wilderness. After that, he seems intent on setting another royal precedent by spanning both Oxford and Cambridge universities, where virtually all of Britain's upper class go. Instead, William is understood to be contemplating taking a difficult degree in the history of art at the University of Edinburgh, a decision that may reflect either his independence streak or the Royal Family's determination to project a less stodgy, more democratic image.

Both of those factors may well be in play in the decision to choose Edinburgh, if in fact the prince does eventually wind up studying in the Scottish capital. But whatever the reasons, it does seem clear that in William a more contemporary version of a British royal is emerging. And for that, royal veterans watch with pride. William's father "Prince Charles appears to be trying to raise both of his sons in a modern upper-class way," argues Harold Brooke Baker, publisher of *Photo Prague*, the authoritative guide to the British monarchy. "Some might say that it was a classless way, but I suppose you can't have everything. Still, I think Charles has done well in taking a leaf from his constitutional cousins, where the monarchies are more secure and more popular simply because the local royals are more ordinary. You can bump into them riding bicycles, doing the shopping, going to the office. The European monarchies are moving into the 21st century. This one is British as hell trying to get into the 21st."

In the opinion of many, Charles also deserves praise for the way he has promoted his sons on the wake of their mother's death. He continues to judiciously guard their privacy, limiting their appearances in public to nothing much more than controlled photo opportunities. In this, he has succeeded the composition of Britain's vigorous media, especially the noisy tabloid press. The media will tryng by the criticism of the role they played in the event that led to Diana's death in the fatal Paris car crash on Aug. 31, 1997, have generally respected a gentlemanly agreement to leave William and Harry alone, at least as long as they are in school. Now that William is turning 18, however, there is widespread anxiety in royal circles that all the tabloids may be freed, particularly concerning William's future love life. In an effort to control events,



With Charles and Harry In November 1998, first fall day at Eton in 1995 (left); at the Carter polo match last July (right); some observers say Charles deserves praise for the way he has protected his sons after Diana's death



Charles is in the midst of reinforcing the four-member press office at St. James's Palace to help ease William's gradual assumption of more public duties. "Generally, the gossip press are going to move a little as far as Prince William is concerned," says Harri. "But we hope that the basic agreements are going to remain in place."

In the end, it may not matter much. Neither William nor Harry are bypassing any of the stately rituals, in public at least, that might be expected from a pair of teenagers who have suffered broken bones and childhood trauma. On the contrary, both appear to be relishing their public appearances. Last month in Klosters, Switzerland, during their annual ski trip with their father, William and Harry obligingly posed for photographers, joking and cuffing their father's shaggy hair. When William was asked to remove his cap, he willingly complied. When asked what thoughts on turning 18, he replied with a smile and a very Diana-like riposte: "It will be interesting."

Earlier in April, William attended the games at the Crossways Hotel lounge in the village of Thorley in rural Dorking by running the stage to take part in a karaoke competition, performing a laudatory version of the Village People's YMCA, complete with arm movements. On a field trip with 40 Eton classmates, William approached hotel owner John Hudson, offering to let his fellow students in a challenge-soprano the lyrics in a singing contest. "We were gobsmacked," Hudson later recalled. "Before long, William grabbed the microphone and was singing his heart out. He really got into the swing of things. He had a whale of a time. It was great to see him enjoying



With Charles and Harry during a ski vacation in Switzerland in April; with cousin Zara Phillips (left); greeting a crowd in Cardiff, Wales, earlier this year (right); out from a different cloth than his father or mother



himself. He got a huge cheer from everyone when he finished."

Clearly, William has retained something of his mother's ability to connect with a crowd, even if his contacts with Diana's family have dwindled. Diana's brother, Earl Spencer, sees the boys occasionally, but is welcomed by few other royals, not surprising in view of Spencer's anti-Windsor speech at Diana's funeral. Much the same applies to Diana's widow and mate Sarah Ferguson, divorced from Prince Andrew but still, bravely, sharing a house with her former husband in Bedfordshire's rolling hills. William is known to be fond of Fergie. Much to the Queen's displeasure, he has even been known to drop in on his aunt and her two daughters—Beatrice, 11, and 16-year-old Eugenie. Alone among the royals, William may even welcome the scurrying news, disclosed last week, that Andrew and Fergie are contemplating remarriage.

Increasingly, however, Chatel's circle is becoming William's. The young prince is very close to Prince Anne's children from her marriage to Capt. Mark Phillips: her son-in-law's daughter, Zara, 19, and her spouse's son, Peter, 22. During Zara's recent extended stay in Australia,

William reportedly corresponded regularly with his feisty cousin. Two other close confidants are Tom Parker Bowles, 25, and his sister, Laura, 22, the son and daughter of Diana's nemesis and Charles' current cancer, Carilla Parker Bowles. The Queen still refuses to even name Carilla—who, possibly, has not yet been invited to the June 21 festivities at Windsor Castle despite her relationship with the Prince of Wales.

William, however, has made his peace with Carilla, choosing to marry whatever entity may have existed between him and his late mother. That, too, may be another measure of the young prince's independent mind. And for some, there are baddele perks in that. "The danger is that William may be given too much say in what he is doing," says Brooks-Baker of *Photo Prague*. "I hope the young man does the right thing because he is going to have the freedom to do the wrong thing. He is going to make mistakes, any one of which could ruiner the day for us all in the monarchy. That, to me, is going to be the greatest difficulty." Those fears may be exaggerated. But they are certainly not likely to make the spectacle of watching the young prince assume any less intriguing. ■

The Restless Royals of Europe

By Barry Cane

Inevitably, they called it the "Love Boat," no matter how improbable the label for an aging Norwegian naval ship. But it was not the real stuff that prompted the nickname. Rather, it was the passenger list, a glittering ensemble of royal European aristocrats, all young, tanned single Crown Prince Felipe of Spain was onboard along with his then-Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden was there; were Crown Prince Haakon of Norway, Frederick of Denmark, Pavlos of Greece and Willem-Alexander of The Netherlands. For six days in June, 1997, the young princes and princesses, 15 in all, paired as they crossed the Norwegian fjords—part of the celebrations marking the 80th birthday of Norway's Queen Sonja and King Harald V. "The purpose," Queen Sonja only半认真地 said at the time, "was to allow the young members of Europe's royal families to get to know each other."

There may well have been a glimmer of budding royal romance in Sonja's eye, as she delivered the comment. But three years have elapsed since the Love Boat wended those rosylicious fjords. And few of Europe's royal families, at least among the 10 who still have thrones to call their own, are any closer to solving the riddle than plagued them all: "The problem is the lack of suitable partners," says Harold Brook-Baker, publisher of *Royal Purple*, the authoritative guide to the British monarchy. "Most of Europe's monarchs are getting on in years. The question of succession is looming ever larger. And they all want to avoid marital disasters of the kind that threatened to undermine the British royal house."

None of continental Europe's royal families have yet endured scandals of the sort suffered by Britain's House of Windsor, except perhaps for the House of Grimaldi, the troubled ruling family of the tiny Mediterranean principality of Monaco. But none have wrestled with the delicate task of finding mates for the next generation of Europe's kings and queens. There is no dearth of candidates. By most counts, there are at least 25 princesses of marriageable age currently luring European bachelors: polo enthusiasts and yacht clubs. Trouble is, none seem able to strike a spark among any of the Continent's extremely eligible collection of royal bachelors. "The princess market is rather limited," as Prince Felipe once flippantly—and famously—sternly declared.

The case of Felipe—full name Felipe de Bourbon, Prince of the Asturias, heir to the throne now occupied by Spain's King Juan Carlos I, 65, is. At 32, he is arguably the biggest catch of all in European shrinking royal pool. Not only is he tall, lean and darkly handsome, but he is also destined to succeed to the most politically powerful monarchy on the Continent. His education includes a toughening stint at Oregon's Lakefield College and a master's in international relations at Washington



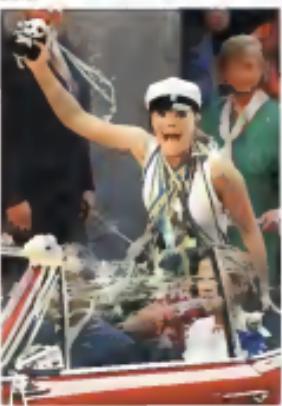
Most royal families have wrestled with the task of finding mates for the next generation of kings and queens



Prince Pavlos of Greece and his wife, Marie-Chantal, with their daughter



Spain's Prince Felipe (left); Prince Alain of Luxembourg with his future wife, Sophie, in 1993 (bottom); however wealth and high birth that can sometimes come with a steep price not easy to pay



and prestigious Georgetown University. He can pilot a jet fighter and handle a blue-water racing yacht, well enough to serve as a member of the Spanish sailing team at the 1992 Olympics. Felipe's girlfriends, however, have always posed something of a headache for his parents. When he was 23, his mother, Queen Sofia, intervened to break up a long-standing relationship with model Sandra, a wealthy Spanish actress whose twice-married mother had allegedly once smuggled drugs for the well-heeled jet-set crowd. While studying at Georgetown, Felipe fell in with Gigi Howard, an American model. In Washington, the couple reportedly dined with Philip's cousin, Pedro of Greece, also a Georgetown student, and Pedro's future wife, American heiress Marie Chantal Miller (the Greek royal family lives in exile). But the relationship ended as the result of a murky scandal. Since then, Felipe has become far more reticent about his love life. There was a brief dalliance with Princess Tatiana of Liechtenstein, sister of Hereditary Prince Alex and daughter of the ruler, Prince Hans-Adam II. Both of Felipe's affairs are married, significantly, to mega-richies: Tatiana wed Olympic handball player Stjepan Draganovic; Elena Spanish aristocrat Jaime de Marichalar. Both are young mothers. But Felipe has renounced his former, living quietly with his father and mother at Madrid's Zarzuela Palace.

The story is similar elsewhere within the tight confines of European royalty: Crown Prince Willem-Alexander of The Netherlands, 33, may be as large a prize as Felipe—and even richer. His mother, Queen Beatrix, is Europe's wealthiest reigning monarch with a fortune recently exceeded by *Vogue* magazine to be worth more than \$7.5 billion. But like Felipe, Prince Willem has demonstrated a taste for female acquaintances that has not always pleased Beatrix. Yolande Adriaenssen, a companion he met at university, was dumped when she moved to New York City and remained circumspect that the supermodel had her income working a telephone sex line. A relationship with insurance broker Fransjeke van de Wal came undone as a result of an un-

Associated Press/Contrasto

Clockwise from above: Frederik of Denmark; Princess Märtha Louise of Norway; Prince Philippe of Belgium with his wife, Mathilde; Prince Joachim of Denmark with his wife, Alexandra, and son Nikolai; aunsettled lot

Few of the young royals have escaped the pressures of being heirs to a centuries-old tradition

derwear advertising campaign Boetrix found unsatisfactory. Gun Ievers Barber Boomstra displeased the queen with her extrovert ways. Eddy Beentjes, daughter of an orthopaedist, won favour at the court for a time but eventually she, too, was withdrawn.

Policía universal to threaten Wilson's latent links with 29-year-old Mariana Zorreguieta, a wealthy Argentine who lives and works in New York. When the young woman began to show up last year on Wilson's arm, Hollands normally circumspect media launched a campaign to find out about the woman. It was not long before they discovered that Zorreguieta's father had served as agricultural minister in the military government of Gen. Jorge Videla during Argentina's "dirty war"—when thousands of government opponents were executed by the regime. "That could have sealed Mariana's fate," recalls Dutch television journalist Jean Monfort, who helped uncover the young woman's background. "It would be politically difficult in this country to have a future queen, the possible mother of a future king, with her father's credentials. But my guess is that the House of Orange will find a way around the problem, maybe by having Mariana publicly disavow benefit from her father's links with the Argentine military. Who knows, Wilson might even end up marrying her!"

Further north, the high-spirited Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, 31, has also experienced frequent troubles. Known for a time in the country as the "Tatto Prince," he's been repeatedly charged for speeding and once crashed his car in France. He provoked a storm of criticism last New Year's Eve several years ago when a car driven by then-princess Marie-Louise Astrid was pulled over by police for speeding. Both the prince and his companion took a Breathalyzer test and were found to be in excess of the alcohol limit. Even worse, Astrid, who is diabetic, had no driving license.

Unlike many of Europe's other royal houses, the Danish ruling family is based on issues of marriageable persons. Fredrik's younger brother Joachim, and wife Alexandra, made it in 1995. A huge, Hong Kong-trained pair-Chinese ethnicity, Marie, now Princess Alexandra, is the first person of Asian extraction to marry into one of Europe's royal families. Last December, Denmark's chain-smoking Queen Margrethe proudly displayed Joachim and Alexandra's eight-month-old Prince Nikolai, during the monarch's 65th birthday celebrations. In keeping with his adventurous reputation, Frederik was not present for the occasion, an ill-timed affair attended by 1,200 of Europe's titled aristocracy. He marked his brother's birthday in Greenland, where he was participating in a 3,500-



km dogleg trek across Denmark's misty island along with five other members of an elite Danish naval unit.

Of all European royal bachelors, the one considered least likely to marry was Crown Prince Philippe of Belgium, often referred to as "the solitary prince." For last year, Philippe, then 39, surprised many Belgians with the news that, in princess-less, life has not been all that lonely for the past few years; he had been quietly courting Mathilde d'Udekem d'Acoz, a 26-year-old speech therapist. Last December, the couple married in a lavish ceremony attended by several monarchs, eight crown princes and a host of other European nobility.

Few of Europe's young royals have managed to escape the pressures of serving as heirs in a centuries-old royalist tradition in a modern age of intense publicity. Recently Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, currently a student at Yale University, was officially described as suffering from an "eating disorder" in all likelihood untrue. Princess Martha Louise of Norway, older sister of Crown Prince Haakon, was accused of having an adulterous affair with British bohemian Philip Mould. In 1995, her father, King Harald, spared her the embarrassment of giving evidence in a divorce case as a British commoner by invoking diplomatic immunity. Prince Albert, heir to Monaco's throne, remains unmarried, the result perhaps of the tangled marital relationships of both of his aunts, Caroline and Sophie.

At 43, Princess Caroline is on her third marriage. Her first ended in divorce; her second when husband Stefano Casiraghi was killed in a boating accident. Current spouse, Prince Ernst of Hanover, has been tagged "the fighting prince" as a result of his penchant for physically assaulting pesetting paparazzi. Younger sister Princess Stephanie, 35, has had an even more turbulent life. After highly publicized affairs with the son of actress Jean Paul Belmondo and Alan Dekker, Stephanie finally married her former bodyguard, Daniel Ducruet, in 1995. But that marriage came to a spectacular end just two years later when Ducruet was caught by a photographer in a passionate snoggle with Manel Husseinian, once proud holder of the title of Miss Topless Belgium. Europe's new royal generation may well be a concerned lot, enjoying all the privileges—but enormous wealth and high-risk career. But these herosines enjoy a price sometimes steep. And many young person and princesses do not always find it easy to go. ■

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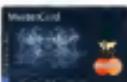
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PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. STONE

Trouble at Sea

By John DeMont

Brian Bartibogue used to think being police chief on the Esgenoopetitj native reserve in Burnt Church, N.B., had its tough days. That was before he decided to become a commercial lobster fisherman. Last fall, after the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that he and other Mi'kmaq had the right to fish year-round and without licenses, he took to the water—and had all 75 traps he and friends owned cut by angry non-native or seized by inspectors for the department of fisheries and oceans for flouting federal authority. He led native protests in the ensuing spritit. And on May 6, the 36-year-old band councillor was back in the middle of the action, when DFO inspectors seized 18 more of his traps in the waters around Burnt Church because they lacked government-approved tags. "I'm rubber," he claims. "I'm not going to quit."

For Bartibogue, the latest showdown in the waters around Burnt Church is about principles—not a few lobster pots. Ottawa says it still has the right to oversee and regulate the native lobster fishery—a position reinforced by the court's extraordinary Nov. 17 classification of its original ruling. But Bartibogue says the government should butt out. And so, last week, with the lobster season under way, he and other natives waited for a break in the bleak New Brunswick weather to drop more traps adorned with purple tags issued by the Burnt Church band. And with another 3,000 Aboriginal traps set to be lowered into the water in the weeks ahead, the struggle is about to heighten the



Native lobster fishermen in New Brunswick are heading for a showdown with the government

Landing the traps in Burnt Church, a dispute over who gets to manage the native fishery rages on

struggle in a community still scarred by the anger and violence between native and non-native fishermen that surfaced last year. Says Karen Somerville, 37, who also had traps last week: "Who knows if Burnt Church can ever be healed?"

Somerville, the program developer at the Esgenoopetitj Learning Centre, a school for at-risk native youth, knows full well that some of Burnt Church's wounds date from before last fall's violence. A wide gulf has long separated the 1,400-strong Esgenoopetitj First Nation, which suffers in 85-percent unemployment, and its non-native neighbours—fishermen who make a comfortable living from the waters off Burnt Church and summer folk who vacation in the seaside cottages and play golf at the local course. Native in Burnt Church argued on the Supreme Court decision—that aboriginals in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward

Island and the eastern edge of Quebec could earn a "modest livelihood" from hunting, fishing and gathering year-round—as a chance to turn their lives around. They dropped some 4,500 lobster traps last fall, at a time when frustrated non-native fishermen were forced to keep their boats tied up because their season had ended.

The situation quickly grew ugly. Almost all the native traps were cut. Native boats were harassed, band members were threatened with guns out on the water. Oshawa, two traps, a house and a native religious structure were burned. Three aboriginal men were beaten after they tried to take lobster traps from a non-native fisherman—apparently in retaliation for native traps being cut. At things worsened, 30 native warriors arrived.

For the moment, relations between natives and non-natives have settled into a frosty truce

from other sources, warning that they would protect their own people if the RCMP could not do the job.

Federal Fisheries Minister Herb Dhaliwal promised to find a peaceful solution to the impasse over the winter. He had a federal negotiator, James MacKenzie, to forge interim fishing agreements with the 34 aboriginal communities affected by the court judgment. In most cases, the bands were offered boats and gear as well as economic development incentives and training if they agreed to fish within the federal government's rules limiting catches and seasons. To date, 15 bands have signed agreements, and five more have reached tentative deals. But the remaining 14, including Burnt Church, have refused the federal offer.

Why the holdout? The New Brunswick band says it has huge concerns about Oshawa's ability to manage the Atlantic fishery. Those concerns only深ened last month when DFO announced that the Atlantic cod fishery was still showing no signs of recovering—and that Newfoundland stocks of snow crab, which many fishermen had named as, were so depleted that catch limits had to be slashed by 25 per cent. In truth, though, says James Ward, a Burnt Church band member who serves as a fisheries policy developer, "This is all about control." DFO does not want to give up its power to regulate the fishery—and we don't want to surrender something which the Supreme Court has called a "crown."

Hence the latest showdown. Since the commercial lobsters



Heading out to sea, Dhaliwal (left); native lobster fishermen acknowledge that the issue is one of control



ANDREW BELL
Market analyst

KATE TAYLOR
Theatre critic



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Canada Notes

A return trip to China

Their departure was almost as unplanned as their arrival. Last week, armed officials put 90 Chinese migrants aboard a plane for their return to an undisclosed location in China. The 75 men, 11 women and four children were among 930 passengers who arrived illegally on four racing boats that were intercepted off the west coast last summer. Almost all the migrants claimed refugee status, but so far only 12 have been accepted.

The May 10 deportation, one of the largest in Canadian history, began without warning. Most of the migrants were rounded up at 1 a.m. from their beds in a Prince George, B.C., jail where they had been in custody, and bused 535 km to the airport in Abbotsford, B.C. Citizenship and Immigration Canada had hoped to handle the wind-down quietly, but reporters covering a fatal helicopter crash at the



Boarding a waiting plane in Abbotsford, two

airports noticed the scores of police.

While one migrant appeared to be crying, others chanted "Go China, Go China"—apparently accepting that their bid to stay in Canada had ended. Symptomatically, the deportation, despite the migrants did not deserve to be treated like criminals. But Immigration Minister Eliot Cutler, who met with officials in China last month to discuss the situation, said the removal should send a clear message to human smugglers. Said Captain "They're not going to win."

Ottawa proposes a higher tobacco tax

The federal government proposed lifting taxes on cigarettes by as much as \$1.6 a carton to curb smoking among young people. Finance Minister Paul Martin wants an agreement with the provinces to return rates to the 1994 levels that could before they and Ontario stalled talks to combat cross-border smuggling. Groups like the New Smokers' Rights Association applauded the proposal, saying a big, one-time hit will discourage smoking, but the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council warned raising taxes will bring back smuggling.

Alberta's new bill

Following weeks of protests, the Alberta government passed its controversial private health-care bill. Premier Ralph Klein's Conservatives voted unanimously to pass Bill 11 into law. All 46 Liberals, the lone New Democrat and an independent MLA voted against it during an emotional session so contentious in the public gallery that shouting and clashing with security

guards. The bill allows private operators to perform minor surgeries and keep patients for extended stays, which critics say costs private hospitals and is the beginning of the end of medicare. But Klein says Bill 11 "will be one of the strongest pieces of legislation in Canada to protect the Canadian health system." Federal Health Minister Allan Rock says he has "grave reservations" about the bill, but it does not violate the Canada Health Act.

An acquittal for Ramsay

Alberta MP Jack Ramsay, who was convicted last November of the attempted rape of a 14-year-old girl during his days as an RCMP officer in northern Saskatchewan three decades ago, was acquitted of a second charge of unlawful confinement. Justice Gene-Anne Smith of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench said the testimony of the witness, who claimed that, when she was 15, Ramsay threatened to shoot her after forcing her to take off her underwear, was not always credible. Ramsay is appealing his conviction.

The case of the tapes

The trial of Ken Murray, Paul Bernardo's first lawyer, wrapped up in St Catharines, Ont. Murray is charged with obstruction of justice because for 16 months he failed to videotape found in Bernardo's home showing the sex-killer and his then-wife Karla Homolka assaulting immigrants Kristen French and Leslie Mahaffy. A verdict is scheduled for June 13.

Troubled times for Tories

Joe Clark and his beleaguered federal Tories gathered in Quebec City for a policy convention as a new poll showed them falling behind the Canadian Alliance party. According to the poll by EKOS Research Associates Inc., 17 per cent of Canadians back the Alliance, compared with 11 per cent for the Tories, with the Liberals well in the lead with 52 per cent.

Banning raves

Toronto city council voted to ban raves in city-owned buildings. The move came as a coroner's inquest concluded into the death of Alan Ho, who died after taking the drug ecstasy at a rave held at a privately-owned underground parking garage last October.

Manitoba's taxing situation

Manitoba NDP government tabled a budget that will change the province's tax structure. The system will eliminate taxes for some 15,000 low-income earners but critics took note at the fact that middle-income earners could end up paying the highest rates in Canada.

Automotive Marketplace

ONTARIO

Importance of Re-sale Value

Stennis Enterprises

It has been my experience that at the time of acquiring a new vehicle, consumers get so concerned with the initial purchase cost that they often do not think through the overall ownership cost. This is understandable since initial costs are visible and easy to evaluate, whereas the costs of ownership are more difficult to ascertain. Initial purchase economics are also central in the decision process whereas future costs can easily be dismissed. However, the wise consumer will think through all aspects of cost up front. Consumers who do this can save thousands of dollars.

There are six general areas that a consumer should research and integrate into their initial buying decision for a new vehicle. Indeed, a case can be made that the same list applies for a used vehicle purchase although the priorities may be different.



very popular in Canada. In fact, we have bought so many minivans that there is a glut of used minivans on the market. Let's examine the used vehicle cycle first; someone buys the vehicle new, drives it for a few years and then puts it up for sale or trades it in. If consumers bought a lot of minivans four or five years ago, there are going to be a lot of used minivans for sale today. This certainly is the case. Therefore, this excess supply of minivans has pushed down prices of used product, even though the vehicles themselves are very good. Minivans are also falling a little out of favour compared to other segments, so demand is also soft, putting downward pressure on prices. The lesson for consumers is to be careful of changing market trends. Most vehicles that sell very well new end up with somewhat lower re-sale value when sold used.

For instance, minivans are great vehicles and are



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The same is true with what we in the industry call fleet vehicles. These are vehicles bought in bulk by daily rental companies, government and institutions. Fleet vehicles are almost always used for one to three years and then turned back in for re-sale. Again, there is nothing wrong with these vehicles but because most are returned in a short period of time, there is an abundant supply and lower re-sale value. Consumers should ask their dealer if a vehicle is a popular daily rental and build that into their decision-making process. Conversely, fleet vehicles that are declining in popularity often have higher resale value than fleet vehicles that are growing rapidly in popularity in the market.

On the demand side of the equation, hot new vehicles usually mean better resale values for their used cousins. Sport utility vehicles represent one of the hottest new vehicle segments in the market today. A lot of consumers cannot afford a new sport utility so they go looking for a used sport utility. This pushes up demand which in turn pushes up prices.

Used Vehicle Wholesale* Prices as a Per cent of Original MSRP — as of January 2000

	17% off	21% off	25% off	31% off
All Passenger Cars	61.3%	52.8%	44.3%	35.4%
Honda Passenger Cars	79.5%	68.5%	58.7%	51.0%
Toyota Passenger Cars	73.7%	67.0%	57.2%	50.5%
Ford-Sized Sport Utility Vehicles	67.4%	62.0%	53.8%	50.4%
Mitsubishi	62.4%	53.9%	43.5%	38.4%

*Wholesale is the price dealers would get at auction. Actual prices would be higher.



Changes in new vehicle prices also have a big impact on used vehicle prices. A few years ago, the new generation Toyota 4-Runner was priced significantly higher than the old generation Toyota 4-Runner. This was justified because it was an all-new vehicle and featured much better technology. But there was not a lot wrong with the old Toyota 4-Runner — it was still an excellent vehicle. So even an unoptioned three- or four-year-old Toyota 4-Runner looked inexpensive compared to the much higher priced new one.

The opposite occurs when new vehicle prices are lowered. A few years ago the new Nissan Altima came out with sticker prices about eight per cent lower than the old Nissan Altima. But even a fairly well-priced old Altima looked expensive compared to the new lower priced Altima. Used Altima prices consequently fell when prices dropped for this model. There is not much a consumer can do about these situations but more familiarity with price changes would help.

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Lee pays tribute to the blues that influenced her

People Edited by Anthony Wilson Smith
with Shonda Dossel

Saving Pte. Pepper

Barry Pepper is no overnight success

Barry Pepper calls himself a "blue-collar hopped." In the course of a 45-minute interview, he says it three times, as if trying to convince himself the description is true. He also calls the truth. When he describes living in Vancouver, he says, "That's where my soul soars [with all our deer, bears and eagles]." These days, the Campbell, B.C.-born actor is intent on shielding himself from the trappings of instant celebrity. In the past two years, Pepper, 34, has gone from a small-time player on Canadian television to one of Hollywood's "leading men of the millennium"—as described by *CQ*-magazine.

The journey started with his turn in Steven Spielberg's *Saving*



The actor: fierce and fathered

Priest. After Pepper played southern sharpshooter Patroy Jackson, who played before every fell. He followed that with *Empire of the Sun* and the Oscar-nominated film *The Green Mile*. Now, he co-stars with John Travolta in *Bangsfield*'s *Fearless*. "People like to say I'm an overnight success," says Pepper. "But it hasn't come on a silver platter. It was nine years ago I took my first acting date."

Next, Pepper has two projects colliding. He is scheduled to be in *Los Angeles*, shooting an HBO movie, directed by Billy Crystal, in which he plays Roger Maris in the story of Maris and Mickey Mantle's 1961 home-run race to beat Babe Ruth's record; at the same time that his first child is due back home. "They're bringing my wife, Cindy, to L.A.," says Pepper, "and taking responsibility for everything nerve-racking for two young, new parents." Hollywood takes care of its hipsters.

Tales from D.C.

Joe Klein, aka Anonymous, the Washington insider who, while working at *Newsweek*, penned the 1998 best-seller *Primary Colors*, says he never wanted to be in the spotlight. But after enduring a media frenzy that uncovered him as the book's author, Klein says

he learned what it was like to be on the hot seat. "I found out how difficult it was to think clearly," says the 33-year-old Klein, now the New York's *Washington* correspondent. "There were people screaming at me, my brain and mouth were in different places and my body was in another room in the fetal position."

That experience was part of the inspira-

Ranee sings the blues

Recently, a Toronto drag queen sold Montreal jazz singer Raquel Lee an impromptu set. Of all people, Lee, 56, understands that at the highest form of bluesy Lee himself pays tribute to the female jazz greats who influenced her by performing in their personas. "My first few years on the road," says Lee, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., "I thought it was Diana Washington's voice. I sounded just like her; I phrased like her." Later, after Lee moved to Montreal and renamed her godmother Richard Ring, she won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for her portrayal of *Billy Holiday* in her 1986 show, *Lady Day at Emerson Bar and Grill*.

This summer, Lee will bring all her early influences together in one show, *Dash Down*, which is both an album and a musical, containing Lee's interpretations of and references to Holiday, Washington, Josephine Baker, Lena Horne, Paul Robey, Sarah Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald. Orange, Lee moves with ease from the French repertoire of Baker to Robey's comedic delivery of *Two Tie Trousers* in Fitzgerald-style sass. "I don't want to irritate anyone, and fall short of the mark," says Lee, speaking like a true diva. "I only want to evoke their essence."



*Broadband children
using better to force the
public into submission*

Gems and Death

The illegal sale of diamonds is fuelling a deadly challenge to the UN in Sierra Leone

By Tom Fennell

Given the bursor that has characterized Sierra Leone's recent past, it was a bold move. On May 8, with their small diamond-rich country once again descending into chaos, several thousand government supporters gathered in Freetown, the capital, to protest at a villa belonging to rebel leader Foday Sankoh. But Sankoh's soldiers have a reputation for brutalty—even to the point of maiming children. And they did not hesitate, firing into the crowd and killing four people as Sankoh escaped. At week's end, his whereabouts remained

unknown, as did the fate of 500 UN peacekeepers, mostly from Zambia, captured by his men on May 4. What was clear is that Sierra Leone's fragile peace seemed irrevocably broken as Sankoh's troops launched a new offensive against the capital—even as thousands of frightened people fled the fighting committed to smite in the city.

Since 1991, Sankoh's Revolutionary United Front had tried to terrorize Sierra Leone into submission—often by cutting off the feet and hands of innocent children—in an effort to control the country's diamond trade. The horror was supposed to end last July, when Sankoh agreed to become vice-president in a power-sharing government with President Tejan Kabba. But when the 500 UN peacekeepers, part of a 8,900-strong peacekeeping force fanning out across the country to police the agreement, approached Sankoh's diamond mines on May 4, the rebels took them hostage, precipitating a new round of hostilities with UN troops ill-prepared for full-scale combat.

Only days before the hostage-taking, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy visited Freetown on UN business and met with Sankoh in his villa. Axworthy attempted to convince the rebel leader to release 3,000 teenage girls his forces held as sex slaves, but Sankoh rebuffed those efforts. "He was focusing on his diamond mining, not the children he was abusing," Axworthy told *Maclean's* last week, with the measure of denouncing. British Prime Minister Tony Blair dispatched 250 paratroopers to Freetown to help evacuate foreign nationals. Canada and the United States also promised planes to ferry 2,000 additional peacekeepers into the country from India and Bangladesh. But Mr. President Bill Clinton refused UN security council chief Kofi Annan's appeal to send in combat troops to crush the rebels. But Axworthy urged the United Nations would not abandon Sierra Leone. "The UN is not retreating," he said. "It is regrouping."

With Sankoh firmly in control of the countryside and the

when they visited the Rev Jesus Jacobson as a peace envoy to lobby President Kabba. Sankoh and a second rebel group that once supported the RUF for peace. To complete the pact, the United States was forced to urge a truce with the civil, with Sankoh becoming vice-president. As part of the deal, Sankoh and his troops were granted amnesty in exchange for disbanding and giving up their weapons—which they did not do.

From the time they arrived in December, the peacekeepers were harassed. The lightly armed UN forces were easily

prep to face, the 500 peacekeepers captured on May 4 appar-

ently gave up their weapons without an argument. At world

end, the whereabouts of the captured

troops remained unknown (Sankoh,

who some Western observers say may

have gone mad, said that his troops

were not holding them hostage and that the soldiers had gone lost).

"The last time the rebels came it was

like this," said Ronniwa Conteh, who

fled to the capital. "We were not

going to win them."

British paratroopers have been

posted to the capital by Sierra Leone

government forces. But analysts say

Sankoh is gambling the West does

not have the resolve to put combat

troops into Sierra Leone. He may

be right. At an emergency meeting

of the UN Security Council last

Wednesday, no commitment was

made to send in armed troops. "The

fact is, countries are not prepared to sacrifice their sons on

the altar of human rights—unless you can bomb from

15,000 feet in a very safe environment," said retired Cana-

dian Maj.-Gen. Lewis MacKenzie, who led a UN peace-

keeping mission in Beirut in 1992.

The United Nations is hoping that a

regional African force led by Nigeria

could yet enter Sierra Leone and per-

suade the rebels. But a hurried meeting in Abuja, Nigeria,

leaders from around the region condemned Sankoh and fell short of ordering additional troops into Sierra Leone. Canada

also hopes to undermine Sankoh by asking the Security

Council to consider sanctions against countries dealing in

Sierra Leone diamonds. Partnership Africa Canada would welcome such a move. "The UN should ban all exports of diamonds from Liberia," said Suttle, "It's high time the world paid attention to it." If not, the children of Sierra Leone will continue to be sacrificed in the struggle over diamonds. ■



*Sankoh: A British
soldier on guard in
Freetown (left); the
rebel forces threatening
to launch a new
era of terror*

West unwilling to send in combat troops, many analysts believe a bloody stand-off will now prevail. To finally defeat Sankoh, the West will have to sever his financial lifeline, severance from the rich diamond mines in the eastern part of the country. The gems are shipped south to neighbouring Liberia, where they are sold on the black market. So far, the struggle for control of Sierra Leone's wealth has scarred a generation of the country's youth. Young boys and girls were kidnapped, the girls used as slaves and the boys forced into the RUF. As Sankoh's four soldiers, they committed terrible atrocities, including maiming nearly 10,000 people since 1991 by chopping off their hands, arms or feet. "This war is only about diamonds," said Ian Smillie, who co-authored "The Heart of the Matter," a report on the Sierra Leone diamond trade for the Ottawa-based human rights group Partnership Africa Canada. "The RUF wants to dislodge the government so it can gain more control."

U.S. officials thought they had ended the fighting last year

**Sierra Leone's
diamonds**

for info

Madrid/May 22, 2009 31



Guns and a million moms

It's a place where law-abiding citizens helplessly watch "the creeping but steady erosion of their freedom." Where honest folk "have come to fear the government and a law that no longer trusts them." A place that stands as a stark warning to Americans determined to safeguard their liberty, "because if this is happening here, it could happen down there."

Recognize it yet? It's Canada, of course, as portrayed in a pretty darn scary video by the U.S. National Rifle Association. The NRA (like many Canadian gun owners, to be sure) is particularly outraged by Bill C-68, the federal law requiring all firearms to be registered by the end of 2002. It's the old slippery slope argument: once the feds know where the guns are, it's just a matter of time before they take them away.

Or so, at least, argues the NRA, which once again is marching the barricades to protect "the right of the people to keep and bear arms" under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It should, by all rights, be a tough sell these days: Americans have been shocked by a string of shootings at schools, churches, offices—even day-care centers. For Donna Doss-Thornton, a cocaine publicist from New Jersey, the last straw was a shooting at a community center in California last August. She watched on TV as a lone man—youthfully led were led to safety, and began organizing last weekend's "Million Mom March" in Washington and 60 other U.S. cities to push for licensing and registration of handguns, safety locks, and other measures. "I couldn't stop thinking about those kids," she said in a letter to supporters. "I felt ashamed. Ashamed because I've sat back while others battle the gun lobby to protect our children."

The idea is, quite literally, to turn gun control into a motherhood issue, much as Mother Against Drunk Driving changed fundamental attitudes toward drinking and driving. A parade of more than 100,000 mothers gathered down on playgrounds, streets, and in crowded malls. With tens of thousands of mostly middle-class mothers on the march, it seemed as if the movement for gun control might finally become a major political force.

So why isn't the NRA on board? Why is it stronger than ever, its membership way up? (It added 700,000 new members in the past 15 months) and expects a record four million by No-



The shooting at Erika's, the last straw

venues?) Largely because the situation is a lot more complicated than the cartoon version popular in places like Canada, i.e., concerned mother versus the gun nuts. Consider:

- U.S. gun violence is actually way down, along with other violent crime, despite the rash of attention-getting shootings. New figures released last week by the FBI show serious crimes dropped in 1999 for the eighth year in a row.
- Fatal firearm accidents involving children are an all-time low. In 1996, according to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, they accounted for just 138 deaths, a minuscule 0.3 percent of all deaths among American children.
- The Million Moms are cleverly focusing on child safety, citing the well-publicized figure that an average of a dozen U.S. children are killed every day by firearms ("black day there is no action on this issue, we lose 12 more children," they say on their Web site). Unfortunately, this figure doesn't stand up. It's reached by including everyone under 20 as a "child." But the vast majority (85 percent) of those killed by guns are aged 15 to 20, many of them older teenagers involved in violent crime. Every young person lost, of course, is a tragedy. But lumping 19-year-old gang members in with tiny tots makes little sense.

Americans are skeptical about the value of new laws to further reduce gun violence. A survey by the independent Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, carried out for the first anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre, found that by a margin of 66 percent to 29 percent, Americans think gun control is more important than the rights of gun owners. But asked what would best reduce crime, they rank more gun laws behind many other things, like community programs for young people and longer jail terms. Only six percent say tougher gun control would prevent another Columbine. Indeed, the NRA scores points by noting the Clinton administration's failure to strongly enforce many existing gun laws.

So the Million Moms have their work cut out for them. They need to keep that campaign going until November's elections, to make gun control a central issue for the middle-class, suburban voters whom politicians prize so highly. But the early evidence is not all encouraging. It may take more than dyed-in-the-wool marching moms, to shift American attitudes

Protesting a killing

In Spain, thousands of people protested the assassination of newspaper columnist José Luis López de la Calle. The 63-year-old, who wrote for the Madrid daily *El Atlántico*, had been an outspoken opponent of the Basque guerrilla group ETA. He was shot outside his home in the Basque town of Andoain on May 7, the fourth person killed by the rebels since December

In the money

Larry Rose, a Michigan swimming-pool installer, claimed half of a \$36-million jackpot—the largest ever won in U.S. lottery history. He chose to take his share of the May 9 prize in a one-time, lump-sum payment rather than spread it over 26 years. The second winner has yet to come forward.

India passes one billion

India's population officially hit one billion on May 11 with the birth of a baby girl named Anusha Aswini in New Delhi. The government marked the milestone with a campaign to encourage Indians to have smaller families. With an estimated 62,000 babies a day, India is expected to surpass China as the most populous nation by 2036.

Ciudad's sex scandal

In a surprise TV statement, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said that he is separating from Donna Hanover, his wife of 16 years. The announcement came a week after the mayor acknowledged he has been seeing Judith Nathan, 44, a divorced nurse who he describes as a "very good friend." In her own statement, Hanover and the marriage had been in trouble, but not in sex because of another woman later identified as Christine Lingano, formerly communications director in the municipal government.

McCain endorses Bush

Arizona Senator John McCain endorsed George W. Bush's bid for the White House. The two fought a bitter campaign in the Republican primaries earlier this year. Bush and McCain's decision will finally unify the party in the race for the presidency this November.



Wildfire rages through Los Alamos

Following by singing winds, a fire set by residents to remove brush near Los Alamos, N.M., went out of control and burned through 23,000 hectares of forest. About 200 homes were destroyed and 25,000 people evacuated from the town, the site of the nuclear weapons laboratory where the first atomic bomb was developed. Buildings housing radioactive material were spared.

The student behind the 'Love Bug'

A 23-year-old computer-school student in the Philippines stepped forward to say he may have accidentally unleashed the so-called Love Bug virus that afflicted computers around the world on May 4. Ondre de Guzman, who once advertised a thesis on how to steal free internet time, did not directly accept responsibility for the incident. But in a news conference held in Manila, he acknowledged that he and his friends had been trying to create a "guruisk"—a term used by young Filipinos to describe something exciting—and that "it is possible" he may have unintentionally virus.

Earlier in the week, goolestone for the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation confirmed that they had traced the e-mail address used to spread the virus to a file in Manila inhabited by de Guzman, his sister, Irene, and Ronald Baranacion, a bank employee. Millions of computers around the world were affected by the Love Bug virus, which caused an estimated \$15 billion in damage. It arrived as an e-mail attachment entitled "ILoveYOU," then disguised user files, stole passwords and replicated and spread itself through the user's e-mail address book.

A liberal prime minister for Russia

Russian President Vladimir Putin formally nominated Mikhail Kasyanov, 43, a pro-reform economist, to be the country's prime minister. The Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, is expected to approve the choice. The nomination of Kasyanov, who has been serving as deputy prime minister, was welcomed in the West, where he is known for his shrewd restructuring of Russia's \$60-billion foreign debt. Kasyanov is expected to streamline Russia's complicated tax system in an effort to improve the investment climate in the country.

Unfriendly Skies

Politicians and passengers assail Air Canada and its hard-driving boss as tales of merger-related turmoil mount

By John Nicol

The task for dog breeder Hal Perry was supposed to be simple: a pet food company had secured a slot for him to fly Air Canada from Charlottetown to Toronto with his small black schipperke and a German shepherd. When Perry went to check in, he discovered the plane did not have a circuit-controlled hold, as promised. A debate ensued over what would be liable if the shepherd was harmed (the small dog could fly in the cabin). Then Air Canada told Perry the flight was overbooked; he had no seat and he would have to drive more than 100 km to the Montreal, N.B., airport to catch a plane. Perry was furious, especially when he found out an off-duty Air Canada employee managed to find space on the flight as they spoke. "They had no compassion whatsoever," says Perry. "This never happened with Canadian Airlines."

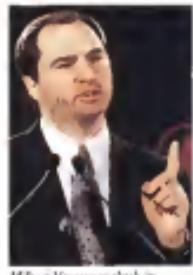
A few days later, on April 5, Canadian wasn't doing much better. It had cancelled a return flight from Mexico City, but failed so many air taxi passengers, including Paul Cloutier, an 81-year-old retired commercial fisherman from Buffalo Pound, Sask. After a month of frustration and a visit to the village of a boy he sposored through a charity, Cloutier was fibbered away. "The thing that bothered me the most," says Cloutier, who was traveling with his wife, "was that nobody was there to tell us we're flying. Nobody knew what was going on."

The reorganization of Canada's two main carriers, which were each named top airline in North America in the past two years, have suffered dramatically in the first six weeks of their

new merged schedule. The airlines argue they have been in a goldfish bowl because of the merger that was approved in principle on Dec. 23, and that much of the concern is based on anecdotes blown out of proportion. Then, too, there has been a cascade of reports of canceled flights, long lineups, late luggage and chronic overbooking. As recently as last month, many of the critics were willing to overlook glitches until what one called "a hideously difficult merge." But now, that grace period is clearly over.

To its detractors—including many politicians, travel agents, corporate passengers and competitors—the new monolith is already acting like a monopoly. Critics have lobbied to strengthen Bill C-26, the federal legislation that will permit the merger and govern the future of the air travel industry. Among the only people happy with Montreal-based Air Canada's performance are shareholders (the carrier's stock price has risen 116 per cent in the past year). But even that leads consumer advocates, such as Michael Jourigian, spokesman of the Canadian Association of Airline Passengers, to caustic: "In the thousands of decisions being made on how to do this, the decisions have favored shareholders over customers. The passengers will be disadvantaged, but they have nowhere to go."

The fate of Canada's airlines was not supposed to turn out like this. On Feb. 9, Air Canada announced 30 new routes, 11 new destinations and the end of the often-wasteful competition that pushed Canadian Airlines International Ltd. to the brink of bankruptcy. Under the firm hand of Air Canada CEO Robert Milson—who has had a reputation as bold and precise corporate sharking—eight-seat planes would fly the night routes, older and inefficient aircraft would be phased. By merging with Calgary-based Canadian Airlines, the 24th-largest airline in the world, Air Canada would jump from No. 18 to No. 11 (the top three: United Airlines, American Airlines and Delta Air Lines Inc.) The Canadian carrier would burnish its solid reputa-



Michael Milson was cheered in (above) as the grace period of ever



tion and ride on the name of a British Airways (the world's No. 4), a dominant domestic carrier with routes around the world. Passengers could even use airplan points on other airline, although officials still haven't worked out a system by which customers can combine their points.

But to reach the Shanghai-La of efficiency, the company had the massive task of melding two work cultures and two computer systems, getting unions to agree on seniority, and getting passengers on the right planes. To make matters even more confusing, officials established June 3 as the day the merged airline's hub would be reorganized at Toronto's sprawling Pearson International Airport, which is undergoing redevelopment. Canadian Airlines will move east of Terminal 3 to take over Terminals 1 and 2 with Air Canada. A closed tunnel between the two will even be reopened.

So far, the dream has not unfolded according to plan. When the new schedule was announced, times that lost seating capacity complained loudly, arguing that smaller planes would impede trade. States of overbooking and the cancellation of flights became rampant. An agreement among the agent unions fell apart in early April—mostly because the seniority issue was not resolved—that snarled Air Canada's flexibility in managing agents to handle shifting passenger flows. The uncertainties of the merger-to-be created lengthening exchanges between passengers and agents, which lengthened lineup times at airports and the wait times on reservations and point-of-sale phone lines. The X-Accident Milson had hoped to satirize in his漫roading began to look like a machine, and Milson himself seemed pan of the problem.

On May 4, when the CEO finally spoke to the parliamentary committee reviewing Bill C-26, he lobbied against further strictures and argued that the alternative to the Air Canada takeover was the collapse of Canadian, the loss of 17,000 jobs and disaster in communities served by Canadian. But members of the Commons transport committee agreed to being initiated by Milson's approach. Then Air Canada spokesman Doug Port sounded "frightened," several of the MPs deemed "angry." Besides being magnets for passenger

Flying on points

After Air Canada announced its merger with Canadian Airlines, flyer point plans went into a tizzy. Air Miles made a new deal. American Express didn't. The new alignment of airlines and affinity plans:

	Canadian Airlines	Air Canada	Air Canada partners
Air Canada/Aeroplan	✓	✓	✓
Canadian Plus	✓	✓	✗
Air Miles	✓	✓	✗
American Express	✗	✗	✗
Delta Club	✗	✓	✓

complaints, the MPs were beginning to fly themselves, seeing firsthand the problems facing the travelling public.

Right after grilling Milson that day, Conservative transport critic Bill Casey tried to return home to Alberta. N.S. He was nearly bumped from a Montreal flight because it was overbooked, then was kept off a connecting flight when a mechanical problem meant only half the passengers could go on. He even lost out on getting meal and money refunds. Eventually he had to fly to Fredericton, then Moncton, a circuitous odyssey that got him home six hours late. "In the seven times I was in, I kept thinking about the seven times Milson said 'I care' that day," says Casey. "I was looking for the care, but I couldn't find any."

It only got worse the next day for Casey's fellow transport critics. Val Mowatt of the Canadian Alliance and Benoit David of the NDP. They faced an Ottawa airport in tatters because of queues. All Mowatt could think of was bringing the house committee to the terminal lobby. "There were women with babies and little kids crying and screaming," she says, "because they had been in the lineup such a long time." Adds DeGalan, whose 3 p.m. flight to Toronto was canceled because of technical problems. "People were

literally fed up. It was so tense that some workers came over the interview and said, "This is embarrassing, someone should be calling Bob Milton."

The May 3 mayhem in Ottawa may have been more than happenstance. That day, the local union for agents sent out a news release predicting chaos because the check-in desks were insufficiently staffed. Air Canada anticipated 2,300 passengers that day, 700 more than normal, but with six agents already off, four of them sick, the airline failed to meet the demand. Tom Fennema, president of Local 2213 of the Canadian Auto Workers union, which includes 6,200 Air Canada check-in, boarding and call-centre agents, says: "They're pushing our members too far. When you hear of agents going home crying after a day at work, it's time to say enough is enough. Milton has to start paying attention to the welfare of his employees and his customers."

Milton declined requests for press interviews last week, but Dan Turek, vice-president of corporate affairs for Air Canada, and the airline's cancellation record has improved slightly over last year, and that complaint is being only marginally, probably because of the heightened awareness of the moment. He says the biggest schedule change in Canadian aviation history was bound to elicit complaints. The most confusion, he maintains, is caused by shared flight numbers and passengers joining the wrong check-in lines. Queues are longer than anticipated because more people have abandoned Canadian in favour of Air Canada.

perhaps because of the misguided belief they can only collect frequent flier points on Air Canada, he says. As well, flight timetables have been loaded in favour of one airline or the other. "We have to do speak some of the peaks we created with our scheduling," says Turek.

Almost everybody it seems, has jumped on the bush-Air-Canada bandwagon. British Airways complained of price gouging for feeder flights in Canada after the preferential treatment it enjoyed as a partner in the OneWorld alliance ended with Canadian's withdrawal. Air Canada routes BA is now simply being treated the exact other competitor. And when Prime Minister Jean Chretien and the Adams partners met in Boston last week, the premiers claimed their provinces were poorly served by Air Canada. That criticism surprised an airline that had just added flights to Halifax and St. John's,



British Airways sleepers revolutionising high-end travel

passengers can work out at a gym, get a facial or massage, shower and have their clothes pressed. "You are wanted on hand and foot," says British Airways spokesman Peter Verner in Toronto. The cost: \$5,490 return from Toronto to London.

BA's newest innovation is sparking the battle of the beds, with Cathay Pacific, Japan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, United Airlines and Swissair all offering sleeper chairs. Virgin Atlantic Airways, which flies from the United States, offers air in flight berths on its top service ring. While Air Canada does not have a first class, its business-class passengers receive tripled, a high-end menu, access to the Maple Leaf Lounge, full check-in and longer seats (but no in-flight beds).

For those in the back, there is some relief in sight. Next January British Airways will add beds to business class. It will also introduce World Traveller Plus, a new level one step above economy. United has similar plans. BA's version will boast bigger seats and computer links. Says Verner: "This will appeal to business travellers and vacationers who need that little bit extra." And are willing to pay for it.

Andrew Clark

NBL, and had dramatically lowered fares in its fight for New Brunswick sprout Culpepper-based WestJet Airlines Inc. Even Stephen Seiden, president and CEO of WestJet Air Canada Hedging competition, observed to Macleod's "It's probably a little unfair to blame everything on the merger."

WestJet is at the heart of drama Air Canada is already acting like a monogamy. On Feb. 27, Winter announced that by April 19 it would be flying once a day from Halifax to Moncton for a walk-up fare of \$299. In early April, Air

How the other half flies

While **Canarians** traveling in economy class say they are getting squeezed and abused, those lucky enough to land a seat in first class have never had it so good. Internationally there are comfy beds, good booze and haute cuisine. Yet not long ago, first-class air travel was almost extinct. "By the mid-1990s, business class offered plenty of luxury—passengers were asking themselves why they should pay more to fly in first class," says industry analyst George Hamlin of Global Aviation Associates in Washington. "The airlines had to come up with some way to differentiate the services."

Skeleton arrived in 1996 when British Airways decided to put 14 feet-long, six-inch beds—complete with duvets, pyjamas and fluffy pillows—in its first-class cabins. It revolutionized high-end air travel. The airline threw in top cuisine, personal TV montages with VCDs and access to 45 videos and eight in-flight channels. At its first-class lounge in London's Heathrow airport, passengers can work out at a gym, get a facial or massage, shower and have their clothes pressed. "You are wanted on hand and foot," says British Airways spokesman Peter Verner in Toronto. The cost: \$5,490 return from Toronto to London.

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Business

Canada announced fees of \$249 from nearby Toronto to Moncton, and increased capacity by 67 per cent. He cautions that his move was undermining WestJet. Milton told the Canadian committee that "it's not going to be like the good old fun days of locking Canadian Airlines around. WestJet now is going to have to compete, but we will not behave in a predatory fashion." Air Canada's response in Moncton, he said, was "what WestJet does to KLM—that's the way the world works." WestJet's Smith, though, believes Air Canada's move "is to limit our growth or knock us out of the marketplace." He notes that Air Canada cut the fare much further than simply matching the WestJet price. "Air Canada is 45 times our size," said Smith. "What they've done is the definition of predatory behavior." The issue is now before the Competition Bureau.

Yet some of the criticism of Air Canada may be unfounded, especially when it comes to suggestions that since the merger prices have risen and airfares have declined. The airline has not raised domestic prices since the airline's restructuring in December, although prices jumped an average nine per cent in 1999. A third of that was due to fuel price increases, the airline says. Fares on US flights rose 14 per cent in 1999, mirroring increases by American carriers, and by another three per cent in January due to fuel hikes. As for airfares, more passengers than ever have taken advantage of them this year, with about 200,000 more seats sold than for the corresponding period in 1999.

Travel agents and corporate clients often blame the merger for policies that started earlier—not that this lessens their anger against Air Canada. "Our reservation has dropped 35 to 40 per cent, even though we did more business than last year," says Caesar Scott, owner of an agency called Travel Options Inc. in Kemptville, Ont. On Oct. 15, he notes, "Air

Canada cut commissions from nine per cent to five per cent, and then talk of them dropping to zero." Michele Ferran, vice-president of client management at Rider-BTI Travel Group in Toronto, is in the midst of renegotiating deals for her corporate clients. For those who fly mainly within Canada, she says, "they're not seeing the same type of discounts they previously enjoyed. Air Canada is only offering big deals where they still have competition—in American and international flights." And under a policy announced last fall, frequent flyers are finding more restrictions on the upgrade certificates that allow them to buy an economy seat and sit in business class.

Critics hope Bill C-26 will scuttle Air Canada. The transport committee added an amendment last week calling for an independent ombudsman working out of the Canadian Transportation Association Agency, a little-known independent organization that is supposed to handle consumer complaints. After formerly opposing the idea, Air Canada responded by saying it will create its own ombudsman to handle complaints and to work with the federal ombudsman. Transport Minister David Collenette, meanwhile, reiterated that Ottawa would allow foreign airlines on Canadian routes within two years if no serious domestic competition emerges.

Until the merger takes place, all sides obviously hope the fallout does not affect the safety of operations. "You can't pull a merger off like this scuriously," says Michael Murphy, chairman of the Ottawa-based Air Passenger Safety Group, "but I'm just worried that some of the issues going to transpire can some key safety function either not being done or being done poorly, or that the crew in the manuals will easily misunderstand the sigs." Continued science, says Murphy, "would take the romance right out of flying." To many frustrated passengers, though, the romance has already been lost. ■

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Asking awkward questions

Bay Street was shaken and stirred by recent critical articles published with great fanfare in *The Globe and Mail*. The stories, written by two veteran journalists, focused on investment banking activities of Yorkton Securities Inc., an independent brokerage firm, which has gained a reputation for its aggressive financing and promotion of Canadian junior technology firms. The reports suggested there may be conflicts of interest that allow Yorkton insiders to profit excessively from the set-up and the share issues of the companies it underwrites and covers with research. Furthermore, the articles dictated that a review of existing regulations in this area might be appropriate.

The executives of Yorkton, led by CEO Scott Patterson, insist they've done nothing wrong. They argue that a new business model is required — at or near market valuations — when dealing with junior tech stocks. These are the basic elements of the debate—but on a larger scale, the dispute raises fundamental questions about the current state of the relationship between corporate Canada and the business media. Whichever side you choose, one thing is clear: this complex, symbiotic relationship is more fragile and fraught than ever. Typically, business leaders dismiss the media and their interests, except when they're using them to publicize their latest deal or pump up their share price—or executive ego. Far too often, reporters focus on the negative in most stories. We judge freely, even though we often have no firsthand experience of the challenge that corporate managers routinely confront.

The business media have also come under attack for our contribution to volatility in financial markets. In his book *Investment Influence*, economist Robert Shiller argues that speculative investment bubbles began with the advent of newspapers. He claims that the media's relentlessly short-term focus on setting records and exploring a good story has fed the mass frenzy for stocks and investment funds. In Canada, a newspaper that has introduced a frantic note to its increasingly competitive business coverage. Headlines have become more extreme to attract readers, and the mollycoddle for new names and fresh angles has intensified. On one market dip last fall, the *National Post* proclaimed on its front page without apparent irony: "Gates of hell open."

But while reifications are familiar, the field has become treacherous—especially for individuals who rely on media reports for investment information. Another development that has affected media quality is the surge of amateur business data from individual investors, who have suddenly flocked back into stock markets. To an unprecedented degree, press is competing directly with television, and both are scrambling to

reach the speed of the Internet when it comes to breaking news.

The drive to beef up business coverage has resulted in the influx of inexperienced reporters at the same time that complained that the accounting practices, regulation, economics and business models are converging. The sensible for television guests and interview subjects has become so intense that potential conflicts of interest are ignored. That means that portfolio managers and others with vested interests are regularly given a high-profile platform to talk up stocks they own, or talk down their short positions—while drumming up business for related funds or firms. At the same time that demand for accurate unbiased reporting is soaring, the supply and conduit for it is stretched. Given the volatility of markets, and their half-suspect responses to almost any news, it's a dangerous imbalance.

Companies are getting more sophisticated about the way they use the media to reach investors and spin their sales pitch. Press releases, traditionally the most mundane form of communication between companies and their constituents, have become more visual. Companies have long used press releases and edgy headlines to grab attention from the piles of fax and e-mail in every newsroom. But even established companies are getting crafty in their use of language, especially when it comes to social earnings reports. It has become a key part of their push to manage earnings and revenue expectations. With the exception of flagrant abuses, it's a tough area for regulators to keep tabs on.

The widespread use of the Internet to disseminate information has added a further wrinkle in terms for investors—and inexperienced business journalists—in gauge the quality of "news" they receive. It may be a paid press release distributed through a Net newswire service, or a single cast for a good or service that's purchased as a instantaneous alliance. Another trend that makes this even murkier, particularly in the power technology sector, is that many public relations agencies now routinely accept equity as stock options in a company as payment.

The flat-top coverage of Yorkton and its partners touches on several such elements. Initially, it seemed a perfect fit. Yorkton earned the media because every piece about its success (including some in *National's*) featured flattering references to firms in its stable, including its Internet incubator and biotechnology ventures. In return, the media got the captivating story of a scrappy independent firm headed by a dynamic young CEO (Patterson), who spoke with mysticism and zeal about helping budding tech companies to raise capital. The only thing missing from the perfectly packaged script were awkward questions—overlooked until now.

Microsoft fights back

Beating up is hard to do, especially for Microsoft Corp. The company that Bill Gates built asked a U.S. federal judge to throw out the Justice Department's proposal to split Microsoft into two separate units: Justice, along with 19 states, wants one company to sell the Windows computer operating system and the other to handle the rest of Microsoft's business. Microsoft said it would agree to change its behavior, including allowing a competing Web browser to have pride of place on a computer running Windows.

A break for grain farmers

Ontario is cutting grain freight costs by \$17.8 million for western farmers by capping the amount railways can charge to ship grain. It will also put \$175 million into upgrading Prairie rail roads and will renazurize the Canadian Wheat Board. Transport Minister David Collenette called the cuts a "pro-producer package." But Canadian Pacific Railway, which has put \$3 billion into improving its services over the last three years, said it would reconsider future investments.

Bay Street looks south

Call it a match made in Wall Street. The Toronto Stock Exchange is discussing the viability of an alliance with the New York Stock Exchange. The TSE is also talking to other potential partners, including Nasdaq. Canada's leading exchange has been spurred by the Quebec government's deal with New York City-based Nasdaq to open a branch in Montreal.

Driving onto the Web

Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd. and two Canadian global firms are seeking to partner in its global fast-food selling on the Internet. Consumers in the Hamilton and Ottawa regions will be the first in the world to be able to go online and customize or order a vehicle from the manufacturer (www.ford.ca). They will obtain a fixed "price" for the car and, if the precise model is not available, can track its status through manufacturing. Buyers will confirm the order with a \$250 credit-card deposit and take delivery from a local dealer.

Caught in an air war

A trade war is in the air between Canada and Brazil. Ottawa has asked the World Trade Organization to approve levying almost \$5 billion in punitive tariffs against Brazil. Ottawa says the tariffs will compensate Canada for losses caused by Brazil's illegal substitution of its aerospace producer Embraer SA, which makes regional jets, with regional jet maker Embraer directly with Montreal-based aerospace producer Bombardier Inc.

Last month, the WTO ruled that the dust isn't settled, that Brazil's financing of Embraer violated WTO regulations. After negotiations between Ottawa and Brasilia broke down, the Brazilian government and Canadian unions would create an "impartial resolution of the dispute." Last, Brasilia off-



Boeing had a spot with Brazil

cial said they would appeal the WTO ruling, which they believe will buy about a month of time for further talks before the WTO can deal with the sanctions issue. If such measures are approved, Brazil has threatened to retaliate, although this could break WTO rules. Canadian companies—including Alcan Aluminum Ltd. and Nortel Networks Corp.—had \$2.8 billion invested in Brazil in 1998.

London comes calling for Trimark

Trimark Financial Corp., Canada's second-largest mutual fund company, agreed to a takeover by international money-management giant Amvescap PLC. The London-based company is offering \$2.7 billion for Trimark, which has \$25 billion under management. Amvescap, which has \$35.5 billion in assets, will merge Trimark with its Toronto-based unit AIM Funds Management Inc., though it will maintain both brand names. The combined entity will become Canada's second-largest fund manager, after Winnipeg-based Investors Group Inc.

Financial Outlook

Canadians are finally getting richer again. The average Canadian household last year gained 1.5 percent in net income and spent per cent in net

wealth, largely concentrated in the wealthier homes. But in the wake of the 1990s recession, it's only this year that net income will surpass the \$389 level. Over the decade, Canadians did a 20-per-cent rise in their net worth after inflation—but American households poised a 50-per-cent jump.

Royal Bank of Canada economist Derek Holt forecasts that income will continue to grow this year and next. But he warns that record-high debt-to-income ratios and stock ownership have made Canadian households' finances vulnerable to sudden, sustained shocks.



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Atmospheric two-way radios are in style.

'Come in, honey, do you copy?'

Kids used to call them walkie-talkies. Now, two-way radios are smaller and smarter, and Motorola, which has just launched three models for the Canadian market, prefers to use its slogan: WalkTalkAbout. Whatever you want to call them, portable radios have proven popular in the United States, where families, friends and couples have embraced them for quick chats or walks, concerts or on mountain-bike trails. While easy to use, their chief benefit is an on-time or mounting fees—while cellphones, their range is limited to 3-2 km under ideal conditions—for terrain, clear skies—but sun, hills and buildings reduce that.

WalkAbouts, powered by class AA batteries, cost between \$70 and \$230. The two most expensive models offer 532 different channel combinations—useful when you're trying to find a clear frequency in a busy skii hill. Users must agree beforehand on which channel to select. But as with traditional walkie-talkies, a third party on the same channel can interfere with conversations, so confidentiality should not be considered private.

The latest generation of two-way radios got in U.S. stores in 1996, when the Federal Communications Commission created the Family Radio Service, creating certain frequencies for these devices.

Industry Canada followed suit only in April. The Canadian market is expected to grow substantially as companies such as Cobra, Coleman and Panasonic bring out compatible units. Future models are expected to offer a global-positioning system, FM radio and a compass.

Instant maps

You're in a new city, hungry and out of cash. Mapped out, a Toronto-based software start-up, wants to help. The young firm, backed by investors gone Dart Tapscott, author of *The Digital Economy*, offers mapping services to businesses eager to attract customers or improve delivery times. If you're that cash-strapped person looking for a restaurant, you might haul out your Web-browsing cellphone or digital organizer and look up a directory listing, online. The directory's operator, using licensed software by Mapsoft, then supplies you with either a digital map on your phone or text instructions on how to get there, pointing out bus schedules along the way. Companies can use the mapping software, which calculates the fastest route to take, to optimize deliveries. Tapscott says he does not pretend to understand the complex mathematics behind the systems. "All I know," he says, "is it works in two seconds rather than overnight."

Cool Sites

Kids connect

Once, children sought out pen pals. Now those from kindergarten to Grade 12 can be cyber-pals through ePals Classroom Exchange at www.epals.com. Based in Ottawa, the site connects more than 25,000 classrooms in 130 countries, offering a range of educational projects and ideas. Perhaps its most compelling feature is its instant message translation, which converts English into understandable if not quite perfect French, Spanish, German, Italian or Portuguese—creating an electronic world without today's language borders.

Dawn Hawkesmith

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Wong with students. 'I don't know why they're picking on teachers'

A Season of Strife

Bitter disputes between teachers and governments threaten to turn schools into battlegrounds

By John Schofield

It was a matter of love over Justice. As an electrical-engineering graduate in the mid-1980s, Sean Wong had his pick of profitable career options. His lab partner, Mike Lestou, went on to found high-tech powerhouse Research in Motion Ltd., and is now worth an estimated \$415 million. Wong chose teaching, starting as a math teacher and now working as the librarian at Waterloo-Dieford District Secondary School, just west of Kitchener, Ont. While the pay is meager, he says the greater reward is helping students learn. Along with his regular duties, Wong coaches soccer and the Beach for the flag-quiz team. But slowly, he says, some of the joy is slipping from the job. A relentless wave of reforms has left teachers weary, confused and angry. "It's difficult to read what this government is trying to do with education," says Wong, 41. "I don't know why they're picking on teachers."

If anything, the red battle is only beginning. Last week, Ontario Conservative government unveiled a proposed law that simply doubles instructional time, requiring high-school students to master the equivalent of an extra half-course a year. The government also became the first in Canada to make the supervision of extracurricular activities mandatory, giving principals the power to assign those duties. The proposed amendment to the Education Act gives the government sweeping powers over school boards. In addition, Education Minister Jane Edler announced a long-awaited plan for teacher hiring that calls for competency professional-development courses, standardized certification tests for new teachers, and regular performance appraisals. The escalating conflict sets the stage for a bitter showdown, one that could engulf the labour unrest that paralyzed the province's schools in 1998. "Clearly," says Earl Mansons, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, "the government seems intent on provoking a fight."

But school conflict extends far beyond Ontario. In British Columbia, the union representing bus drivers, janitors and other school support workers is threatening pandemonium if government arbitrators fail to reach an acceptable solution next month in an ongoing dispute with school boards.

Liberals Leader Gordon Campbell has vowed to take away teachers' right to strike if he wins the next B.C. election, and some observers say Ontario's Tory government is eyeing similar action or a move in provincial budgeting. In Nova Scotia, privatization pressure has forced deep cuts in education have hammered down, but only after the Conservative government agreed to provide \$36 million to cover school-board deficits and teachers' salaries next year. Still, Nova Scotia boards are expected to cut \$30 million, including about 200 teaching positions across the province.

After years of turmoil in education, many parents are disillusioned with what they see as the steady deterioration of public schools. Across Canada, enrollment in private schools has jumped 23 per cent since 1990. After seeing their son Jamie stumble in an uncoordinated Grade 2 class, Halifax mother Katherine Ali and her husband, Ignatius, a doctor, plan to place the eight-year-old in Bedford Elementary Academy. That local private school, which charges annual fees of \$3,800, has tripled in size since 1998. Their daughter Sarah is already in the kindergarten program. "The core of education is starting to suffer," says Ali, a marketing consultant. "I'm not going to sacrifice a child to the public system."

In Ontario, the government insists it is pumping more money into schools to ensure the public system remains strong. Edler says the move to make extracurricular activities mandatory is designed to thwart possible boycotts of these activities in the event of teacher protests. Teachers in Durham District School Board, which serves the education minister's own riding, northeast of Toronto, have refused to oversee drama activities since the board implemented increased class sizes in 1998. Edler says the government wants teachers to spend an extra 25 minutes in class each day to bring them in line with the national average. She also points to this month's provincial budget, which announced an extra \$341 million for special education, early reading programs, and reducing elementary class sizes. Says Edler: "There is no question about the money that's going into education."

For those on the ground, however, that claim seems increasingly hard to swallow. The number of teachers in the province reached a plateau defined by 11,393 in the past six years, while enrollment over the same period has jumped by more than 99,800, according to People for Education, a parent group. Urban school boards are bearing the brunt. In 1998, their local funding powers were stripped away and replaced with a new funding formula. By 2005, when the formula will be fully implemented, the Toronto District School Board alone expects it will have slashed \$362 million from its budget. It plans to shut as many as 38 schools by 2003. Across the province, 157 are slated to close this year and next.

Now, school boards are fighting back. In March, the Greater Essex County District School Board in Windsor, Ont., passed a resolution refusing to make further cuts, and three other boards, including Toronto and Ottawa, have passed similar measures. Edler has ordered the Windsor board to overturn its decision. Under the Conservative's new law,

the minister of education will have the authority to take over boards that fail to comply with orders regarding curriculums, instructional time or other matters. Under the Education Act, trustees could face jail sentences. But as former Toronto mayor Frank Nelson said at an recent educational symposium: "Sometimes there are things worth going to jail for."

Making extracurricular work mandatory will be a "nightmare" to implement, says Wong, and is an insult to those who give up their time freely. To make matters worse, he argues, the extra class time will add hours of preparation. A recent study by Saint Mary's University in Halifax found that the average teacher in Nova Scotia already works about 52.5 hours a week. "The teachers will do whatever they can to avoid a strike," says Barb Sargent, president of the Ontario Teachers Federation, an umbrella organization for the province's four teacher unions. "But in the end, that may be their only option."

The last walkout caused painful rifts, and in many cases, the healing is still going on. Parents and students feel caught



Ali with children Malik (left), Jamil and Seirah. 'It's not going to sacrifice a child to the public system'

in the crossfire. What they need is stability, says Judy Watson, president of the 16,000-member Ontario Federation of Home and School Association. While she applauds the government's simpler high-school curriculum, introduced last fall, she says teachers and students were poorly prepared for it. Kids are falling through the cracks, especially in math and science. Signs of concern are everywhere: vocational subjects have been sliced back, and increasingly, parents are being asked to raise money for such books as classroom maps, sheet music and teachers' resources. "There's a lot of apprehension," says Watson. "We with everyone would stop fighting and focus on our children." And all the angst, it's clear they are the ones with the most to lose. ■

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Sports

The Flyers' foibles

Internal conflicts have not derailed Philadelphia—yet

Most sports franchises try to promote team harmony and avoid distractions, particularly during the playoffs. Good chemistry and clear heads, the argument goes, are right there with talent and grit as key components in winning championships. The Philadelphia Flyers have recently taken another approach. Their top player, Eric Lindros, is injured and unhappy with the team's medical staff. Their head coach, Roger Neilson, who took a leave of reduction for cancer treatments, is back and upset at not being reinstated to his job. And both star and coach are at odds with the team's general manager and president, Bob Clarke, who has publicly disagreed with Neilson by relegating him to assisting his own former assistant, Craig Ramsay. The result? The Flyers advanced to this week's National Hockey League semi-finals, having outlasted Buffalo and then Pittsburgh in the first two playoff rounds.

Successful managers usually develop one mould in the NHL, but that one will likely remain unique to Philadelphia. It's difficult enough to win the fierce Cup

even without being Team Banshee. Sixteen of 28 NHL teams qualify for the playoffs, there are four grafting best-of-seven rounds, and even the contenders can be undercut by the unexpected. In the first round, the St. Louis Blues—the boomers out in the regular season—surprisingly turned cold and lost to the San Jose Sharks. And the Toronto Maple Leafs fell to the New Jersey Devils in part because the Leafs, semi-breakers in 1999, were depleted by injuries to five regulars. So even Clarke expresses surprise when he has played out in Philly. "If anything," he says, "all these things that were going on were uniting the team."

Hockey fans who aren't distracted by off-ice shenanigans are in for a treat in this semi-final. There is a history of terrific rivalries in both conferences' arenas—in the east, the Flyers and Devils have pitted off once before, in 1995, when New Jersey upset the favoured Flyers and went on to win the Cup. Our bet: the Dallas Stars defeated the Colorado Avalanche just last year in a fierce one-game final match-up that has Colorado



Claire (left), Neilson, Lindros
before his injury (top); turned



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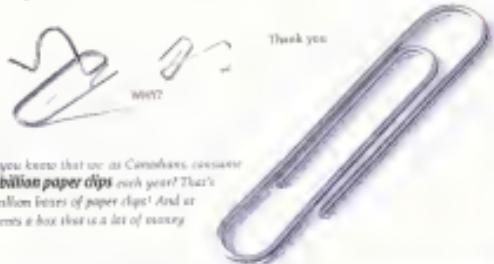
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Sports

looking forward to seeing the score.

In Philadelphia though, Lindros seemed slightly uncertain while the Lindros-Clarke confrontation continued to fester. Lindros spent most of last week in Toronto recovering from his fifth career concussion in two seasons and considering a stunning series of missteps. He was initially sidelined on March 13, nine days after suffering a severe head injury, and when it became clear he had been allowed to play four games in that condition, he officiated the team's medical and training staff for the incorrect diagnosis and subsequently ask to his health. Clarke, who last year chastised Lindros for not playing when the centre had suffered a collapsed lung, blamed Lindros' remarks to reason and stripped him of his captaincy. Then, when Lindros began to feel better and resumed training, he suffered yet another concussion in a freak accident at practice.

Lindros may yet return to playoff action. His headaches have stopped, he was scheduled to begin skating at the team's New Jersey training centre early this week and he might be available if the Devils' series goes to seven games. He'll be welcome, second-line centre Keith Primeau sustained a concussion after a thundering bodycheck in the last Pittsburgh game, and his uncertain playing status leaves the Flyers perilously thin down the middle. "Without Lindros and Primeau," says former NHL coach Pierre McGuire, now a broadcast analyst, "the Flyers don't match up well against New Jersey."

If the Flyers are still alive when Lindros is fit to return, then Clarke has a small problem. He wanted Lindros to apologize publicly to team officials for criticizing their diagnosis. Lindros has not done so, and his father-agents, Carl, would not comment last week, fearing anything he says might further inflame the situation. The team's few have to hope for reconciliation since most agree with Neibauer's assessment of the Flyers' chances: "It's who the Stanley Cup," the coach says, "we'll need Eric."

JAMES DEACON

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Let There Be Dark

Fighting light pollution, designated dark-sky preserves open the heavens to stargazers



By D'Arcy Jemish

At twilight, a great blue haze drifts over Highland Pond in the Torrance Barrens of Ontario's Muskoka lakes district. And as darkness falls, a pair of headlights announce their presence on the water with piercing cries. But the 16 members of the North York Astronomical Association camped on the rocky shoreline hardly notice. They have driven 200 km north from Toronto on an April weekend to observe distant suns, galaxies and other celestial wonders from Canada's first dark-sky preserve. They are the first stargazing group to camp at the 2,000-hectare site since the province passed legislation last year safeguarding the barren from a further incursion of outdoor lighting that has blotted much of the night sky in most urban areas. "There are beautiful galaxies visible at this time of year," says Toronto reader Jim Knobell, passing through his two-metre-long, 55-cm telescope. "But you've got to get away from the city to see them."

Many nights, astronomers say, city dwellers can see fewer than 100 of the roughly 4,000 stars that should be vis-

ible to the naked eye. The problem is sky glow—the pale orange halo that hovers over large urban areas due to sprawling development and the proliferation of high-powered outdoor lighting. The situation worsened over the past decade, experts say, as service stations, fast-food outlets and car dealerships, among others, emitted intensely bright lights to attract customers. "It's absurd," says lighting designer Nancy Clinton of Boulder, Colo., chairwoman of a committee that drafted new outdoor guidelines for the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. "These places look like operating rooms."

One solution to excess urban light is the dark-sky preserve. Migratory birdwatchers created the first in 1993, imposing restrictions on outdoor lights at Lake Hudon State Park, 160 km southwest of Detroit. Ontario established the second, at Torrance Barrens, last August. And in April, amateur astronomers in Abbotsford, B.C., 70 km southeast of Vancouver, successfully appealed to their city council for a dark-sky designation at a nearby park shielded from the community's lights by a mountain.

Increasingly, municipalities are adopting measures to protect the skies over



an expectation to see the night sky," says astronomer writer Terence Dickinson of Yarker, Ont., 25 km northwest of Kingston. "They're annoyed when they see a sky full of光."

Increasingly, municipalities are adapting measures to protect the skies over

within urban areas. In March, 1995, the Toronto suburb of Richmond Hill adopted the first bylaw in Canada regulating the brightness of commercial, industrial and institutional lighting. Several communities in Ontario and British Columbia are considering similar measures. South of the border, Arizona, Maine, Connecticut, Texas and New Mexico, and more than 100 municipalities, have imposed lighting restrictions. But some politicians assert those laws are weak. In New Mexico, for example, while regulation went into effect on Jan. 1, the office director issued a warning, and subsequent violations a \$25 fine. "We have powerful interests who didn't want anything passed," says Albuquerque representative Pauline Gubbel.

Poor lighting practices, such as bolting buildings with blinding floodlights that also illuminate the sky, have become so prevalent that even some users and manufacturers are trying to tackle the problem. Clinton says the engineering society issued new guidelines for its 9,000 members last year. They recommend that security lights be no more than five times brighter than surrounding street lamps and that residential lighting also be limited to five times that ambient level. But many commercial establishments use lights designed for sports stadiums or airport terminals that, Clinton says, are as much as 10 times more powerful than roadway illumination. "If you talk to building engineers with the rational that they use these lights," she says, "they'll tell you they got that instruction from the marketing department."

The Richmond Hill bylaw controls lighting used strictly for display or marketing purposes. Enforcement officer Robert Cowie says it requires new establishments to shield their lights to ensure that no more than two per cent of the illumination shines into the sky. And any business that closes overnight must reduce exterior illumination, in some cases by up to 75 per cent, at 11 p.m., leaving only enough light for security purposes. "We haven't penalized anyone yet," says Cowie. "But we have to watch the contractors

because they always want to install lights that are acceptable in neighbouring municipalities, but illegal here."

In Muskoka, meanwhile, supporters of the Torrance Barrens are using the dark-sky designation to try to convince neighbouring municipalities to pass lighting bylaws. Lack of development in the rocky swampland preserve has kept the sky relatively dark, but the area sits amid some of the most desirable cottage country in the province. A study increase in night lighting throughout the region is blurring the view close to the horizon. "We've been coming up here for 50 years," says retired Toronto architect Peter Goering, who led the campaign to protect the barrens, "and I've seen the night sky deteriorate. The lakes are lined with cottages now and whenever you look, it's lights, lights, lights."

Darren Driscoll, one participant in the North York association's expedition, first reached the skies from Muskoka

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Geewh, See that girl, watch
that scene.
Dig in the Dancing Queen.*

By Andrew Clark

There. The ABBA has been applied. It will burrow deep into the gacy matter it will shoot around the neurotransmitters. It will play at its relentlessly happy clip for the duration of this article. It will control you. Set that grill. Watch that scene. *Dig in the Dancing Queen*.

You might as well get the music in you now. Seconds after the hit ABBA musical *Mamma Mia!* opens officially in Toronto on May 25, jukeboxes across the country will begin belting the ABBA revival from the rafters. Don't believe the hype. There is no ABBA revival. How could there be? The famous palodhouse from Sweden—two men and two women wearing silver and gold platform shoes, panel neckerchiefs, tank tops and deserve-clinging pants—never went away. "There are only two kinds of people," says ABBA fan Alison Flora, a 29-year-old Ottawa-based international market analyzer, "those who like ABBA and those who like ABBA but won't admit it."

"Well, OK, if you don't count those who hate ABBA. Yet there is no denying that ABBA's sales loom above the music industry like a towering platform boat. Every hour of every day around the world, 150 ABBA records are sold (that's 3,000 per day). Since the group disbanded in 1973, it has sold 350 million albums, CDs, and tapes worldwide. ABBA music figures prominently in such movies as *Married to the Mob* (1994) and *The Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (1994). ABBA tribute bands such as Björn Again and ABBA Maniac



Mamma Mia! features a light plot, an old-fashioned ending and 22 songs from the group that defined a decade for many



ABBA on the *beyoncé* in the 1970s; *Ulvaeus* and *Pärce* in *Turandot* (left); *Agneva* from the musical (*opposite*); the rock gods shot after 20 years a decade ago

expected to attend the opening of the raunchy Canadian (28 in a cast of 300) production—the first time in five years that the group will have appeared in public together. It's all so ABBA-solutely fibulaeats.

An unswerve with Björn Ulvaeus, ABBA's lyricist and guitarist, inevitably conjures up all the teenage pasts and hemmed-in fears whis, back in the 1970s, dreamed of taking a sledgehammer to every ABBA album in creation. To North American rockers too cool to "Get the beat from the tambourine" in *Dancing Queen*, ABBA was a Nordic plague. But 55-year-old Björn possesses a cavalier cool that could win over the most diehard AC/DC devotee. Visiting Toronto recently, he laughed uprogressively when told of the fibula urban legend that he and the other male in the group, co-writer and keyboard player Benny Andersson, wife-swapped their respective spouses. ABBA lead singer Agnetha Fältskog (the blonde) and Anni-Frid Lyngstad (the non-blond). He displays wry wit as he describes why, earlier this year, ABBA turned down a \$1 billion (U.S.) offer to reissue and tour. "If people like ABBA they like the image of ABBA back then," he says. "Why would anyone want to revoke it? And besides, when you divide it by four, it's only \$250 million per person."

And *Mamma Mia!*—which opened last spring in London and became the hit of the season—is already the best-selling show in the 93-year history of London's Royal Alexandra Theatre. Advance-ticker sales for the run, which ends in September, exceed \$8 million. All four ABBA members are

and Björn were established rock and folk musicians. "It would never have happened if we weren't together," recalls Björn. "It was a way of combining our work and private lives." They threw together their instruments and dubbed themselves ABBA. In 1974, the group won the Eurovision Song Contest with "Waterloo," beating out Olivia Newton-John. ABBA spent the remainder of the decade on top of the charts. Sprung from such as *S.O.S.*, *Dancing Queen* and *Mamma Mia* swarmed radios and eight-track players, sticking permanently in the collective memory of a generation.

By the late 1970s, success began to erode the group. The women wanted no longer touring in order to spend more time at home raising their children. Björn and Agnetha had two, while Anni-Frid had two from a previous marriage. ABBA began to tour less, compensating by presenting the use of music videos to promote album sales. But the pressure proved too much. Björn and Agnetha divorced in 1978, Benny and Anni-Frid followed in 1981. Ironically, this troubled period predicted the

The band's record sales loom above the music industry like a towering platform boot

ABBA hits *The Winner Takes It All* and *Super Trouper*. "We had a great creative stretch after the divorce," says Björn. "There was a joy that came out of realising that we could still work together." In 1983, the group released an last album, *Thank You for the Music*. ABBA disbanded shortly afterwards.

Björn and Benny decided to maintain their songwriting partnership and moved into the realm of musical theatre. Their first effort, 1984's *Chez—The Musical*, produced the hit single *One Night in Bangkok*. In 1995, the pair opened

musical *Knäckebröd*, based on a Swedish folk legend; it became the most successful musical to ever open in Sweden. The idea for an ABBA musical was born when Björn attended a performance of George "I could see the potential," he says. "The songs were uplifting with a lot of him."

The Seventies nostalgia train is derailed. *Mamma Mia!* follows the 20-year rule for decade reactivation—after 20 years a decade can be cool again. In the 1970s, there was *Grease* and *Happy Days*. In the 1980s, there was *The Big Chill* and *The Winter Guest*. Skip to the end of the millennium, and we have *Thirteen Reasons Why* and *Mamma Mia!* Set on a Greek island, *Mamma Mia!* tells the story of Sophie, the single mother of



Stylish ABBA in 1977: Maudigan and co-star Adam Brasier (left); weaving energy with an intrinsic playfulness into a strong narrative

Dionta, a young woman who is also to be married. There is just one problem—Dionta has no one to walk her down the aisle. Sophie, who enjoys the sexually liberated 1970s way of life, admits that three or four men flounce who might be Dionta's dad. In a bid to determine the truth, three potential papas are called to a wedding. Somehow, 22 ABBA tunes are packed into this premise.

Misery was written by Cathie Johnson, a 42-year-old Bristol-based playwright with roots in the British narrative theatre. She won the job after two previous writers failed to complete

fan of Marvin Gaye's productions, a youth, Johnson considered ABBA. "I loved that the group has been an icon songwriters were very personalised about songs." They were supposed to be sung by men so to be sung by women was weird. ABBA's songs are designed to keep the pile high, and do a decent (masculine identity and matrilineage) to an old-fashioned happy ending—broad—in the words of Johnson, it is great to be independent, "it would let a man into your life."

recent cast features veteran actress Louise Sorel as Sophie and 24-year-old neophyte Anna. Pixie emphasized with her character as these dancing in the disco when she says, "Sophie's a lot like me. She's kind of woman." Maddigan, who at 14, was exposed to ABBA at age 5, "I liked it and I loved it," she says, "and we'd buy the records and sing along." Since then, she's been a coach and sing to "Waterloo or Down Under since ABBA will never die." ■

Maestro with moxie

The Vancouver Symphony's new music director starts with a 10,000-musician overture

It was an audacious assignment, undeniably foolhardy. Perhaps even a tad folly. But Bramwell Tovey, the new music director of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, knew he could pull it off. The challenge? To beat a 1958 Guinness record by conducting the world's largest orchestra. The last benchmark was set by Tovey's former classmate, Sir Simon Rattle, who directed 3,503 musicians in Birmingham, England. But this week, Tovey is expected to beat Rattle's mark by guiding the VSO and 10,000 British Columbia students in a concert at B.C. Place Stadium. Conducting a group of that size, says Tovey, is more like being "a traffic cop than an interpreter of high musical ideals." But the point was to draw attention to the importance of musical education, and the occasion gave Tovey a prime opportunity to make an anniversary speech in Vancouver.

The 46-year-old, British-born maestro, who has the manners of a diphtheria and the ring of a gong—has a sensitized nose, the result of being hit by several cricket balls—spent the past 11 years at the helm of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. Last year, he accepted the job in Vancouver, which he takes up officially in September. An accomplished composer, a pianist, a peripatetic conductor and the force behind Winnipeg's nine-year-old New Music Festival, Rosey is a man of enormous energy and charisma. "His communication skills are superb," says VSO president and general manager Barry McAnern. "He can walk into a room of 500 people and light the place up like a Christmas tree."

"Winnipeggers regret his departure. 'How many symphony conductors attain local celebrity status like sports figures and TV newscasters?' gushed the

a name for herself in British classical music circles. During a 1986 London festival honouring Leonard Bernstein, the scheduled maestro didn't show. Tosoy was asked at the last minute to conduct the famed American composer's symphonic score from the movie *On the Waterfront*—with Bernstein in attendance. Tosoy was in Birmingham, preparing for the opening night of *The Swan Queen*, a ballet for which he had created the score. But he rushed to London to rehearse the Bernstein piece, returned to Birmingham that evening for its opening, dined with Princess Margaret, then headed back to London. "Bernstein was very supportive throughout," says Tosoy.

Some Vancouver musicians who have worked under Tovey suggest he is not himself supportive and has a short fuse. "It's probably true to say I have zero tolerance for complacency in music-making," Tovey concedes. "But I don't think that's being shortsighted. I think that is being professional." Tovey says he intends to lead the orchestra into more works of Haydn and Bach and New Music composers such as John Cage and Gavin Bryars. "The orchestra has a reputation for the Beethoven manner and the works of the German school," says Tovey. "What I'd like to do is push the clock backwards and drive it forwards."

community just outside London, to men who were members of the Salvation Army. He played banjo and horn in the Army band in addition to studying classical violin. Later, he attended the Royal Academy of Music—with Aristotle—and joined the father's Wellspring baller company as associate conductor. "I was thrilled to be on tour with three dozen ballerinas," he says. "There are worse ways to pass your time when you are in your 20s."

Jennifer Hunter et al. / *Kommunikation*

The irony and the ecstasy

A new movie mixes satire with drug-fuelled exhilaration

By Brian D. Johnson

Filmmakers tend to mix themselves when trying to convey what it's like to be on drugs. They resort to special effects and crass metaphor—the hallucinogenic holics of the acid trip in *Easy Rider*, the pharmaceuticals of *Drugstore Cowboy*, the judge who does down a molar in *Transpoing!* Alcohol is easier to do across love to play drums, and Elm lends itself to wacky, leapt-out imagery. But the drug experience often comes across as an unrefined sign language, a code for unknowably bad behaviour. And almost invariably it leads to dire moral consequences—Kevin Spacey's character in *American Beauty* gets himself killed just for sipping pot from the boy next door. But *House Tropic* is quite another story. This manic excursion through the brain's vice zone is one of the most authentic, anti-judgmental and purely exhilarating movies ever made about the simple act of getting stoned.

One of the reasons it works is that it comes straight from the source. Novice director Justin Kerrigan, now 26, was in his early 20s when he wrote the script, which he describes as "absolutely auto-biographical." Set in the director's home

town of Cardiff, Wales, *House Tropic* unfolds as a long night's journey into party excess, tracking half a dozen ravers as they consume a balanced diet of ecstasy, cocaine, downers and stimulants. The narrative arc is dead simple: the ravers look forward to getting high, they get high, they come down. And Kerrigan casually finesses a romantic comedy out of the debauch, as the main characters, Jp (John Simm), overcomes his sexual anxiety—"a case of Mr. Happy"—by falling in love with his friend Lulu (Lorraine Pillinger).

"I think exactly what happened was," Kerrigan coldly Marfaed. "I was Mr. Happy and I fell in love with my mate." When he was writing the film, he adds, "I was selling jeans, just like Jp. It seems that every generation goes through the same thing—sexual neuroses, social paranoia and frustrations that build up in the working week. Everyone at some stage can relate to a last weekend. You get to Friday and you're up, 'Is he still with u' We're going to have a scream.' We're going to live for the present, as opposed to



Scene from the movie with Simeon (center); the director staged raves for the shoot

designs. "We're on holiday now—we saw *Transpoing!* and it made us do it."

Transpoing! is the obvious precursor to *House Tropic*, but this is a much lighter ride, with none of *Transpoing!*'s violence or scatology. And although Kerrigan expected his film to be controversial, ecstasy has become so widespread in Britain that the the movie opened without a ripple. *House Tropic* has even taken Kerrigan into the mainstream. After the film had its North American premiere at Toronto's film festival last fall—and the director stayed up all night on ecstasy—he was awakened by a phone call asking him to meet with Miramax co-chairman Harvey Weinstein. "I've had about an hour's nap," he says. "I'm on a come-down, and I have to meet Harvey." Weinstein bought the film and signed Kerrigan to a three-picture deal—turning a last weekend into a windfall. ■

a future which is never going to come."¹

Clockng in at 99 minutes, *House Tropic* counts by as a spendidly witty dialogue, funny sequences and bluespeak monologues, with characters often talking directly to the camera—a device also used in Stephen Frears' *High Fidelity*, the seventh other recent movie about music and pop culture. You can practically hear the brain cells popping as the characters plunge into the night. In fact, most of the extra dancing in the background are on ecstasy—Kerrigan based it hundreds of them and staged actual raves for the shoot.

The film's hedonistic pulse is under-scored by shrewd satire. There is a bizarre exchange between a black record-store clerk with a Cockney accent and a white fan of jungle music bubbling in jarrusian priests. And Kerrigan takes the cliché out of anti-drug propaganda, notably with a nihilistic scene in which a TV interviewer asks Lulu and Nina (Nicola Reynolds) if they are on ecstasy. "No, we give that up," they

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Getting hitched, again and again

Screen legend Elizabeth Taylor is returning to her birthplace to be honoured by Queen Elizabeth II. On May 24, Taylor, 68, will be made a dame—the female equivalent of being knighted—in Buckingham Palace for her contribution to film. The actress, who was born in London, has appeared in more than 60 films. Taylor is also famous for being married eight times, a lot even by Hollywood standards.

Actor-director Billy Bob Thornton might be on track to beat her nuptials record. Thornton, 44, was married for the fifth time last week, to actress Angelina Jolie, 24, at a Las Vegas wedding chapel. It was Jolie's second marriage.



*Thornton (left) and
Jolie in *Posing for a Picture**



The former co-stars—they portrayed a dysfunctional couple in the 1995 film *Posing This*—separately began dating early three weeks ago. But the seriousness of the relationship became apparent when Jolie was seen sporting a Billy Bob tattoo on her shoulder. *Posing* is due later this month.

Comedy 101

Canadian shock comic Tom Green co-starred in *Road Trip*, which, in the movie suggests, is about four college students who drive 2,900 km from New York to Texas. They hope to retrieve the videotape of one of them, Jack (Josh McDermitt), who accidentally went to his long-time girlfriend.



Green

Living history

The first-time American director Wayne Webster set eyes on Ruth Ellis, she was dancing at a 1987 music festival in Indiana. "I was trying to figure out how old she was," recalls Webster. "But I never got the chance to ask because she never stopped dancing."

Webster soon learned that Ellis was 97—and the oldest openly gay black woman in America. Webster's documentary *Living with Pride: Ruth Ellis* (8 p.m., screening all month at the Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film Festival), uses interviews, archival footage and dramatic portraits of Ellis's life (born in 1899 in Oxford, Ellis has been "out" since 1915, and is a longtime civil rights activist, "listening to her," says Webster, 37, herself both black and lesbian). "I was witnessing African history through Ruth's eyes."

Pop Movies

1. <i>Gladiator</i> (\$14.75)	\$1,013,344
2. <i>B. movie</i> (\$10.75)	\$1,014,030
3. <i>Florence Nightingale</i> (\$11.75)	\$111,176
4. <i>When the Heart Stopped</i> (\$10.75)	\$81,128
5. <i>Prejudice</i> (\$10.75)	\$81,170
6. <i>I Dreamed of Africa</i> (\$16.75)	\$63,860
7. <i>25 Hours</i> (\$10.75)	\$47,740
8. <i>Desperate Housewives</i> (\$11.75)	\$336,270
9. <i>Eric Braeden's</i> (\$10.75)	\$239,903
10. <i>Reign of Cupcake</i> (\$10.75)	\$19,250

Top movies in Canada, ranked according to box office receipts for the seven days that ended on May 11. *Gladiator* marked another record-breaking week.

Source: Information Please

Best-Sellers

Book	Author	Position	Last week
1. <i>LOVED UNLAW</i> (Mister Bookstore) (T)	L	1	
2. <i>REQUIEM</i> , 2nd (Turtleback)	T	10	
3. <i>THE BIGGEST PREDATOR</i>			
4. <i>Under Suspicion</i> (TSB)		2	
5. <i>THE HUMAN STUFF</i> (Poly Arts)		3	
6. <i>DISPUTES OF FORTUNE</i> , 1st (HarperCollins) (T)		4	
7. <i>THE EIGHTH MAN</i> , 1st (HarperCollins) (T)		5	
8. <i>PHILIPS</i> (Penguin) (T)		6	
9. <i>DISPUTES OF FORTUNE GARNER</i> , 1st (TSB)		7	
10. <i>LOVE IN UNIFORM</i> , 1st (Gothic Gothic) (T)		8	
11. <i>LOVE IN UNIFORM</i> , 2nd (Gothic Gothic)		9	

Nonfiction

1. <i>SEAS SPOTTED</i> , 2nd (Grey Eagle) (T)	1
2. <i>FIVE DAYS IN A CHINA LABYRINTH</i> (TSB)	1
3. <i>EXTREMIST</i> (McGraw-Hill)	2
4. <i>WHAT'S KNOW' 'TODD</i> (Simon & Schuster) (T)	3
5. <i>DISCUSSION WITH MARTIN</i> (McGraw-Hill) (T)	3
6. <i>REMEMBERING RICHARD</i> , 2nd (Purple Mountain) (T)	4
7. <i>THE NATURE OF DISASTER</i> , 2nd (John Wiley) (T)	4
8. <i>DESIRE OVER LIMITE</i> , 2nd (Orbit Street) (T)	5
9. <i>THE RISE AND FALL OF ROBERT MUSKELL</i> (T)	5
10. <i>IN THE HEART OF THE SEA</i> , 1st (National Defense) (T)	6

(1) Weeks on list
Compiled by Bruce Belgrave

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Television

The documentary *Island of Shadows* (7 p.m. April 16, Leiper Colony, 1991-1994, airing on May 17 on Vision TV) inventories a shameful chapter in Canadian history. Beginning in 1991, the British Columbia government called "disinheritors" who had contracted leprosy to a barren island 30 km off the coast from Victoria. The island never had more than nine inhabitants at a time, who lived in

shack-like shacks without bath or outhouses. Contact with the outside world was limited to a visit of a supply ship every three months, which dropped off food, supplies and clothes. Meanwhile, white lepers in the same era were not treated with the same brutality. They were sent to a hospital in Inuvik, N.W. Director Erik Paulson, who lives in Vancouver, uses archival materials and dramatic re-enactments to vividly bring this terrible story to life. A horrific minute it is not.

Honouring a fallen funny guy



Business legacy

man Memorial Award. Co-created by his brother John, the \$2,500 prize will be awarded this July in Brampton. Six finalists, all from the comedy program at Toronto's Humber College, have been picked, and will perform stand-up routines before a panel of judges, among them *SNL* producer Lorne Michaels. The spry Canadian have a lot to live up to: "Phil Hartman," says the director of the comedy program at Humber College, Jon Kenna, "was one of the funniest people on the planet."

Michael J. Fox, the star of *Family Ties*, has been cast as the lead in a new TV movie, *Phil Hartman: The Movie*. The biopic, directed by Michael Moore, will chronicle Hartman's life, from his birth in 1953 in Ontario to his death in 1998. Hartman, 45, was a long-time civil rights activist, "listening to her," says Moore, 37, himself both black and lesbian. "I was witnessing African history through Ruth's eyes."



Allan Fotheringham

Saluting the Queen Mum

As someone who thinks it ludicrous that this supposedly "sovereign" country is officially ruled by a "head of state" who lives in a castle across a large ocean, I nevertheless like the Queen Mum.

Andrie all her dozen grandchildren—the prince who takes to flowers and wants to be a sapper and was bailed into marriage by his Uncle Prussia's father and throughout maintained his affair with the married Sonnenfeld; the good Regge and the one—picked in, gun, whatever. If shark what it takes to be 100, good for her.

There has been a great heat perpetrated by the Toronto Scottish Regiment. On the eve of the Vimy Disaster 2009—"In Honour of the 100th Birthday of the Colour"! In Chief Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother"—several hundred of us took led down their Hudson Bay pens in a phish Toronto hotel balloons.

One wondered, while musing at the chequer, whether the lady in question was in shape to fly the noses, her mid 100th not coming until Aug. 4.

To the despair of all the matrons who had spent the mortgage on their frocks, she of course did not oppose. As could have been expected, she was one of those earnings whose dear Queen—the most vain of all monarchs—got dressed up better than their women.

Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore, was born at St. Paul's Waldenbury in Hertfordshire. She married Prince Albert in 1923 and as Duchess of York (before there, Duchess of York) graced her fine parades outside of Britain—so the Canadian Mounted Rifles—As Queen in 1937, one of her first appearances was as colonel-in-chief of the Toronto Scottish Regiment. The first Canadian regiment, she, so to honours.

Prince Hal Jackson, the eastern local millionaire who is an ardent new backer of the cocksureminded Canadian Alliance, a here, all donned up like a Toy Soldier in an operetta. Paul Fox, the excent Toronto professor, was a Technicolor rooster that would get him arrested if he was seen in daylight in San Francisco.

In 1939, the King and Queen crossed Canada by train. There is a picture of a small boy, squated on the carb in Regina, with a paper pinned to his lapel, giving his name and address if he is lost and where he should be returned to in downtown Hearne, Sask. Ten weeks later, Bessie was at war

Opposite this boy at the plush hotel, the ladies with tears of disappointment at the hair running down their gauzy cheeks, as a husband with lath ruffles emanating from his throat that would make Liberace blush. His wife is in discreet, obscure black.

There is the great anecdote about the Queen Mum, famous for her love of the gong, pressing the button to her staff downstairs, those whooshes being noted for being awfully challenged. Impatient for her order, she says: "I don't know what you quavers are up to, but this Queen would like a gun." London dims out on that story.

The Toronto Scots? They were there at the Somme in 1916, at Vimy in 1917, at Ypres and Passchendaele the same year. At Dieppe and Dunkirk.

One is always surrounded at all three wars—probably pressurizing around in sleep. In the first Big War, the noisy Germans described the famous Scots as like at "the Ladie from Hell." And all of them named after Canadian bankers.

She came in 1965 to help the Toronto Scottish celebrate its 50th anniversary Queen Mum, before a full house at Varieté Suduiraut. I watched as the regiment raised the colour she had presented in 1939.

It is a wondrous experience, to sit and watch the cap-splitting bugle band marching up and down the balloons, in intricate synchronization, dressed in finery that their wives couldn't afford.

The Scots of course are the most vain of all, revealed only once a year when they prance out in their many skins in public balloons. The last and great Jack Webbs said it all, when asked the always-boring question about what was worn beneath a Scot's uniform. "It's not worn at all," he would reply. "It fact, it's in very good shape."

Australia is bravely going to junk the monarchy before this renascent nation gets around, inevitably, to an "Asia of the Olympics" Games in Sydney in September. It could not stink the enthusiasm of having an "head of state" doing the traditional opening ceremonies on world television.

And therefore had Her Queeness visit The Land of Oz this spring instead, her presence on Sept. 15 not convenient. She took the lions. And the obvious.

Queen Mum, however, is invisible. Put the gun



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